

# Arkansas Methodist



"SERVING TWO  
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NATIONAL COUNCIL  
LABOR DAY MESSAGE

New York—(NC)—The National Council of Churches has hailed the progress in relations between labor and management in the lessening of jurisdictional disputes and "the growing spirit of cooperation among the branches of organized labor in the United States."

The nation's churches owe a debt to the labor movement, says the multi-denominational agency in its 1955 Labor Sunday message issued today. It cites the labor movement both for its role in increasing living standards for the worker and in giving him the opportunity to participate in decision-making in a democratic framework.

Labor unions have gained for the worker "that sense of dignity and of belonging which every human being craves and which everyone needs for full development of his personality," the message states.

At the same time the Council cautions labor that its increasing strength places upon it a greater obligation to be truly democratic in its procedures and to weigh every act in relation to its effect upon the general welfare.

The obligation is in direct proportion to its power — and is shared by every organization and individual — the Council states.

"That obligation is not discharged for any of us unless there is a maximum practicable degree of employment and opportunity for creative expression," it continues. "It is not discharged unless the opportunity . . . is equally available to all men and women regardless of creed, race, social status or national origin.

"It is not discharged until justice has been done to every child by the provision of good educational opportunity and by the elimination of the slum as a breeding place of suffering and delinquency."

The National Council commends organized labor for its support of international programs which share America's material surpluses and technical "know how" with the needy and underdeveloped areas of the world.

The message quotes the second commandment: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

"Insofar as workers have heeded this admonition by realizing the mutuality of their strivings, their sorrows and their joys, they have increased the stature and the dignity of labor."

The Labor Sunday message approved by the General Board is distributed by the Department of the Church and Economic Life for use in local church observances, community and union meetings and similar meetings. The Council suggests that church groups invite leaders from local labor organizations to participate in their programs.

It also suggests that the message be distributed at morning worship

(Continued on page 3)

## Dr. Schisler's Successor Named

Dr. Leon M. Adkins, pastor of the University Methodist Church, Syracuse, N. Y., has been elected executive secretary of the Methodist Board of Education's Division of the Local Church. He will assume his new duties at the board's national headquarters in Nashville, Tenn., on Nov. 1 following the retirement of Dr. John Q. Schisler.

Dr. Adkins' election was announced by Bishop Paul E. Martin, chairman of the Division of the Local Church, following a meeting of that body in Chicago Aug. 23. Bishop Martin also headed the nominating committee, which, over a period of several months, had considered many ministers for the high post before making its recommendation of Dr. Adkins. His election by members of the division was by unanimous vote and was also approved by the executive committee of the full board.

In his new role, the New York pastor will be the general administrator of the Local Church Division, which carries on a church-wide program of Christian education and acts as a service agency for nearly 40,000 local Methodist churches and the week-day and Sunday activities of 37,820 church schools with a membership exceeding six and a half million. Dr. Adkins will supervise a staff of 100 people, including 36 department heads and field workers.

While retiring from the executive secretaryship on Oct. 31—two weeks after his 70th birthday — Dr. Schisler has been asked to serve in an advisory capacity to the Division of the Local Church until September, 1956, at the session of the Tennessee Annual Conference, of which he is a member.

In announcing Dr. Adkins' election, Bishop Martin described him as "thoroughly prepared by training and experience for this important position." Bishop Martin also said: "In his local church and in his Annual Conference he has demonstrated abiding interest and constructive leadership in the work of Christian education. In a period of unparalleled opportunity, we can confidently expect the church school to make continued progress under the guidance of Dr. Adkins." The bishop also had high words

## Membership And Attendance Emphasis This Month

By Methodist Information

### Pastors' School At Hendrix Next Week

The 33rd session of the Arkansas Pastors' School, held annually for the Methodist ministers throughout the state, is scheduled September 5-9, at Hendrix College, Conway.

Sessions of the five-day meeting will be held at Martin Hall, according to Dr. Ira A. Brumley, Conway, dean of the school.

Bishop Paul E. Martin, head of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area of the Methodist Church, will deliver the closing address Friday morning on "The Last Year of the Quadrennium." Dr. Jewell M. Smoot, pastor of Strathmoor Methodist Church, Detroit, is the platform speaker for the event, and will speak at 9 a.m., and 7:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday.

Dr. James W. May, professor at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., will conduct the course on "The Work of the Local Church;" and "How to Read and Study the Bible," will be taught by Dr. Edward P. Blair, instructor at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Illinois.

Other courses include: "The Church in Town and Country," to be taught by Dr. Earl D. C. Brewer, Emory University professor; "Preparation and Preaching of Sermons," by Dr. Webb Garrison, General Board of Education staff member, Nashville, Tenn.; and "Methods and Procedures in Adult Work," by Dr. M. Leo Rippey, also of the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church.

Instructors for the session and Dr. Smoot will lead discussion groups each afternoon on such topics as How to Tell the Church's Story, The Pastor as a Counselor, How to Read the Bible, Your Local Church, Developing the Rural Church, and the Conference Adult Program.

The Pastors' School is sponsored jointly by the General Board of Education and the Boards of Education of the North Arkansas and Little Rock Conferences.

Registration will begin at 7 p.m. Monday, and some 300 Methodist ministers are expected to attend.

of praise for Dr. Schisler, who has devoted 35 years to Christian education general administrative work. Bishop Martin said that his leadership had been "without parallel in the history of the church." "By his remarkable devotion to duty and amazing skill in directing this important work, Dr. Schisler has gained the respect and affection of the

(Continued on page 13)

The North Arkansas and the Little Rock Conferences of the Methodist Church will join in a state-wide, church school membership and attendance crusade during the month of September, according to the Boards of Education of the two Conferences.

Dr. Roy E. Fawcett, Little Rock, executive secretary of the Little Rock Conference Board of Education, and Dr. Ira A. Brumley, Conway, the North Arkansas executive secretary, said the campaign is the first organized, state-wide emphasis on church school the Church has held since the Crusade for Christ, 1944-48.

Bishop Paul E. Martin, head of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area and Chairman of the Local Church division of the General Board of Education, said church schools in the two Conferences had continued to grow during the past few years without a special emphasis, but "through the co-operation of the pastors and laymen, the church schools in this state can greatly increase the number of people being reached by the program of Christian teaching."

The emphasis program is planned to reach all age groups in the church, and every local Methodist church in Arkansas will conduct an organized campaign in an effort to increase church school attendance and membership. The program will be climaxed on Church School Rally Day, September 25, which is the Sunday Christian Education Week begins. The campaign will end October 2, when the new church school year begins.

The Boards of Education are stressing the program because of its importance to Methodism, Dr. Brumley said, because "statistics show 75 per cent of all members received into the church on profession of faith are members of a church school when they accept the church vows."

A series of Christian Education Institutes are being held in connection with the church school emphasis program. Those scheduled for the Districts in the North Arkansas Conference include: Searcy, First Methodist Church, Aug. 29; Batesville, First Methodist Church, Aug. 30; Jonesboro, First Methodist Church, Aug. 31; Paragould District, at the Methodist Church in Pochontas, Sept. 1; Forrest City, First Methodist Church, Sept. 2; Fort Smith, First Methodist Church, Sept. 13; and the Conway District, at the Methodist Church in Morilton, Sept. 15.

The Fayetteville District held an Institute at Mt. Sequoyah in con-

(Continued on page 13)

# Responsible Citizens In A Responsible Society

The following article is a summary of an address to the 46th Annual Convention of the Louisiana State Federation of Labor, which met in Baton Rouge in April. The address was delivered by Rev. James L. Stovall, pastor of the North Baton Rouge Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, and is presented here as reflecting the church's concern and interest in the labor movement.

**W**HAT I have to say might be summed up in the words "Let us be responsible citizens in a responsible society." One of the greatest temptations that all of us face is to withdraw to ourselves and to feel no responsibility for life about us. We often feel as in the words of the song that we would "like to build a little house out in the West and let the rest of the world go by." There are times when we are tempted to say, "Me and my wife, and my son John, his wife, us four, and no more." We are tempted to say, "Let others assume responsibility for the hard tasks while I feather my own nest."



James L. Stovall

But when we give in to these attitudes we are dissatisfied with ourselves. We know that to be true to our faith and to ourselves we must be concerned, interested, and active in things worthwhile. We know that the great need is for people of vision and purpose, people of faith and action to project their Christian and Democratic ideals into the places where decisions are being made.

## Why Be Responsible

Let us ask ourselves why should we be concerned about being responsible citizens in a responsible society.

1) When we pray, "Our Father," we must be concerned about our brothers. Christian social responsibility is grounded in the nature of God who has created the world and who loves and acts in history as an ever present power working for righteousness.

2) The second reason for our concern is the inter-relatedness of today's world. "No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent."

Rapid improvements in the transportation and communication have made the world a neighborhood. If Europe has a headache today, we have to take an aspirin here in the United States. A few men cross an imaginary line in the distant country of Korea and we are at war.

A number of years ago, H. V. Kaltenborn was editor of a newspaper in Brooklyn. On his desk he had a motto which was thought of as being the slogan for his newspaper. "A dog fight in Brooklyn is more important than a revolution in China." I am sure that the events of the last few years have taught Mr. Kaltenborn that such a slogan is not adequate for our kind of world. Today we say, "Revolutions in China literally cause funerals in Brooklyn."

The conflicts in our world today arise because we have been forced to live as neighbors without knowing how to be neighborly. When God revealed the knowledge to bring about this small world, it is as though he said to us, "You will now create a brotherhood to live in or you will die. The future lies with those who can be friendly, understanding and cooperative. Yet the world has been described as being like a man who has one foot in an ox cart and the other in an airplane. In terms of our material progress we have one foot in an airplane, but

in terms of human relationships, we still have one foot in an ox cart. We who have learned to fly through the air like birds and swim under the sea like fish must now learn to walk the earth like men.

## Communism Challenges Way of Life

3) The third reason why we must be concerned is because of the challenge that communism presents to our way of life. During the past few years, communism has gained control of about half of the world's population. We here in this country have a tendency to blame everything on the communist—and much should be blamed on them—but what we had better understand is that the communists are taking advantages of our failures, and of the trouble spots throughout the world. In this respect, they challenge us to eliminate unchristian and undemocratic social conditions wherever they exist. Communism challenges us to project our democratic way of life into the trouble spots of the world. Our shame is, that though we detest communism and are convinced that it is corrupt and inadequate, that we are not as enthusiastic for our own way based on democratic and Christian ideals. The kind of life we prize will be eliminated unless we can offer the people of the world better solutions than the communists. I am convinced beyond a shadow of a doubt that in our democracy and Christian faith we have the answers. The only question before us is this, "Will we let these ideals remain abstractions, or will we clothe them with flesh and blood?"

## Labor Movement Important Channel

I am convinced that one of the best channels through which anyone can work and express their Christian and democratic values today is through the labor movement. The labor movement has made great contributions to America. And a strong labor movement is essential today to provide checks and balances in our free enterprise system.

A strong labor movement cannot exist in a little world of its own. Therefore, your well being cannot be achieved merely by your working for labor's well being. Your concern must be the entire community. Nothing should be thought of as being outside of your interest. Some people want to confine religion to a few minutes on Sunday morning, but when they do, they end up without any real religion. Likewise, if you're seeking to confine the interest of a union to take-home pay, you end up without much union, or much take-home pay. We cannot divide life into neat little compartments. It is all of one piece. Many of you have realized this and you have been interested in politics, health, education and everything that affects the lives of workers. Your interest in these matters is not accidental or passing, but because you know that man does not live merely by take-home pay, but by many influences that play upon them from the state and community.

## Decisions And Politics

Many of the decisions that affect our lives

today are political decisions. This has become increasingly clear and true. So, each of you should be vitally interested in politics. There are those who say, "Politics is a dirty business and I don't want to get mixed up in it." To whatever extent politics is a dirty business, to that extent, you have a greater responsibility to do something to clean it up and to direct the decisions of government toward the common welfare. You should think of politics as the normal functioning of our government. It is a place where you can take hold to project your concern for yourself, your community, state and nation. You have a responsibility to the democratic process. And, remember this: You have no right to blame someone else for what is done by government unless you have worked for something better. Progress and improvement in human affairs is not something that just happens; it comes about because people with the right kind of ideas and program work sacrificially for their realization.

If you don't work for your program somebody else will present theirs. And the chances are you will not like what they present. Don't be absent when the decisions are being made. Political indifference and unconcern will spell death to unionism and democracy.

## Labor's Position Should Be Strengthened

I call upon leaders of the labor movement to work for the strengthening of the position of labor. This can be done by working to strengthen the unions, and also by being more active in politics.

Let me make several suggestions that might be helpful: First, take time for a period of reflective thinking, self-examination, and study that will lead to a clear understanding. Gain a deep appreciation of the democratic and Christian heritage of our nation. Gain a deep appreciation of the contribution that labor has made. Understand your world and state. We must be people of understanding, faith and action if we are going to do the job that needs to be done.

Secondly, after reflective thinking, get organized. Organization is essential. It should be thorough and democratic. It should be on a statewide, district, parish, ward, precinct, and block basis. Develop a detailed organization, method and approach; and then be faithful to the details and go to work.

Thirdly, project a broad positive program that will serve the community at large. Work as hard for those things not specifically related to your interests but which serve the common welfare as you do those things that serve you specifically. In doing this you will win friends and influence people.

Fourthly, follow through. You are not going to be able to achieve your goals by pulling strings and clever manipulation. You are not going to reach your goals by a few leaders at the top working at the job. You will achieve your goals when you know where you're going, get well organized, project a positive program, and follow through by ringing door bells, raising dollars, wearing out shoe leather, and never-wearying of well doing. In doing these things, you will develop strong unions, and your influence for good in the state will be great.

## Labor And Race Relations

I call upon the labor movement to be a steadying influence in home community and in the South as we face the implementation of the Supreme Court decision in regard to segregation in public education. This is one of the most important issues before our state today, and the way we handle it will be a measure of our democracy and of our Christianity.

We need today a rebirth of faith in America and in democracy. We need to believe in people and in their ability to work together if given the opportunity. The truth is inescapable that today here in the South our newspapers, our politicians, our educators, and some of our ministers are failing to give the leadership in dealing with this issue. These who should know better are a part of the problem. They add to the confusion. The labor movement has done more than almost any other group in creating a climate in which people of different races, creeds, and colors can work together in an atmosphere of mutual respect and concern. La-

(Continued on page 3)

## LABOR SUNDAY MESSAGE, 1955

Approved unanimously by the General Board of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America and issued through the Department of the Church and Economic Life

Requested to be read in the churches on Labor Sunday, September 4, 1955, or if preferred, on September 11, 1955

ONCE AGAIN, on the eve of the day set aside each year in tribute to labor, the National Council of the Churches of Christ extends its greetings to all who work.

For our Labor Sunday Message to the workers of America we refer them to the words spoken by our Savior: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Those who follow this teaching of the Master give meaning and nobility to their work. Insofar as workers have heeded this admonition by realizing the mutuality of their strivings, their sorrows and their joys, they have increased the stature and the dignity of labor.

### CHRISTIAN MOTIVES AND VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS

Historically Labor Day has had special meaning and recognition for those who have joined together in labor unions for mutual aid, protection, and service. This Labor Sunday Message is intended as a recognition also of those essentially Christian motives which have played a part in leading workers to form voluntary associations with their fellows.

While Christian principles thus encourage individuals to join in relations of mutual aid and protection, so they require that all organized groups in their internal and external relations advance the general well-being of the whole society in which they live. No man lives unto himself alone, nor does any organization.

There was a time when, of necessity, the labor movement was largely a struggle for the protection and relief of oppressed and underprivileged workers and their families. We thank God that to a marked degree that struggle has been won. Generally speaking, workers today have achieved a more secure, better compensated, and widely respected position in our American society. It is not only a change in living standards and economic welfare. Millions of individuals in labor unions have gained opportunity to participate in significant decision-making, which is a vital expression of democracy. They have gained also that sense of dignity and of belonging which every human being craves and which everyone needs for full development of his personality.

### OUR DEBT TO THE LABOR MOVEMENT

The churches acknowledge a debt to the labor movement and to the men and women who have built it for the significant part they have played in this great constructive change. Such voluntary association in mutual help and support also encourages the development of Christian relationships which the churches seek to foster everywhere.

And in this year 1955 we hail the progress in the relations between labor and management, in the lessening of jurisdictional disputes, and in the growing spirit of co-operation among the branches of organized labor in the United States.

But with strength comes obligation. And in labor's case, the stronger its organization becomes the greater is its obligation to be truly democratic in its procedures and to weigh its every act in the light of its effect upon the general welfare. This, of course, is not an obligation of labor alone. Such an obligation lies upon every organization—as upon every individual—in direct proportion to its power. That obligation is not discharged, for any of us, unless there is a maximum practicable degree of employment and opportunity for creative expression. It is not discharged unless the opportunity for employment and creative expression is equally available to all men and women regardless of creed, race, social status, or national origin. It is not discharged until justice has been done to every child by the provision of good educational opportunity and by the elimination of the slum as a breeding place of suffering and delinquency.

### A MORE ABUNDANT LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLES

Nor can our obligations be limited by the borders of our own country. One of the greatest of all new movements of our century may well be what we call "technical assistance"—a sharing by those who have with those who have not of the knowledge and the methods whereby a better and more abundant life for the peoples of the world can in time be created by their own effort and through their own institutions. Where stark need exists—anywhere in the world—our obligation is to share goods also, to share generously and without thought of return. There are no surpluses, in God's sight, while there exists a single hungry person anywhere on earth. The National Council of Churches commends American organized labor for its effective support of international programs directed toward these ends.

Our generation lives and does its work under the very shadow of possible universal catastrophe. Man's rapid development of weapons of total destruction has not yet been matched by corresponding progress in the development of institutions and relationships which can and will control such weapons and spare mankind from death by his own hand.

### GOD CALLS TO RESPONSIBLE ACTION

These circumstances make clear once again our continuous dependence upon the forgiving and empowering grace of God. In humble acknowledgment that the God of all men and nations has summoned us to obedience, we have faith that his care and guidance will enable us to act responsibly in this day. The National Council of the Churches of Christ is profoundly committed to a moral awakening which issues from a rededication to the Christian faith.

On Labor Sunday it is appropriate that the call for moral awakening and rededication to faith be especially directed to American Labor. We know it will fall on receptive ears.

## RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS IN A RESPONSIBLE SOCIETY

(Continued from page 2)

Labor is to be congratulated for its progress in this field. Labor can render a great service to our states and the South during the next few months and years by acting with cool heads and warm hearts. This will prevent the literal destruction of the public school system, and of putting the parochial schools in an embarrassing position. It will keep from discrediting America abroad by stirring up racial conflict at home. It will help to establish peace throughout the world. Let us not be afraid of justice and goodwill, but let us reassert and act upon our basic democratic and Christian faith. At the heart of our way of life is a faith in the dignity of man as a child of God. We must not disregard this faith lest we find ourselves fighting against America herself. If level headed editors, educators, and political leaders will point the way, we will be able to work our way through this issue in the best American tradition.

### It All Adds Up

Mathematics is a definite science. In mathematics things always add up to the same. Two plus two al-

ways adds up to four. Two plus two never adds up to eight. Likewise there is something definite about human relationships. Our state and community will be determined by the way we live, the choices we make, the laws we enact. Let me spell it out: oppressive labor laws, government by gamblers, and racial antagonism never have, and will not today, add up to democracy, decency and peace. It adds up to facism and sets forces in motion which lead to communism, chaos and war. On the other hand, justice for all, mutual respect one for another, and government by the people will make America strong to overcome the enemies without and within.

Wherever you turn today, people and governments are looking for answers, affirmations, directions. In our democratic and Christian faith we have the answers. The answer lies within the framework of our churches, schools, homes, unions, businesses, government and free institutions working together. As these are run by mature people, free of big fears and petty jealousies, we can work for the welfare of all.

Tommy Lewis is my new hero. You will recall Tommy Lewis as the football player, who, in the Cot-

ton Bowl Game in 1954 felt himself so personally responsible for the winning of the game, that he ran from the sidelines onto the playing field and tackled Dick Moegle, who was well on his way for a touchdown. That was bad football, but it illustrates the kind of spirit we need in our world today. Let us not sit on the sidelines, but let us feel ourselves personally responsible to make our democratic and Christian values come alive.

Let us be responsible citizens in a responsible society.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL ISSUES LABOR DAY MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

services on Labor Sunday, Sept. 4, and that it be used as the basis for the sermon and for church school discussions.

Labor Sunday was established in 1910 by the Federal Council of Churches, one of the 12 (now 13) interdenominational agencies which merged to form the National Council of Churches in December, 1950. The first Labor Sunday message was issued on September 2, 1917. Its issuance is one of the oldest established practices in American cooperative church life.

## LABOR SECRETARY ASKS WORKERS BE FIRM IN FAITH MORALITY

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS)—Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell said in a special message for Labor Sunday (Sept. 4) that while a strong and confident working force is vital to American prosperity, this force will be strong "only as long as its dedication to faith and morality remains steadfast."

The message was believed to be the first ever issued by a government official in connection with Labor Sunday. The observance was inaugurated in 1917 by the Federal Council of Churches, predecessor of the National Council of Churches.

"It is not so important to have God on our side," Mr. Mitchell said, "as it is to make certain we are on God's side, that we as a nation continue to make all agreements and all decisions that have bearing upon our destiny in the single, simple light of morality as defined for us by our faith."

Terming Labor Sunday a "holy day of spiritual refreshment," he said "it is an opportunity to rededicate our labor to the ethical principles and moral ideas by which we, as a people, have attempted to steer our course."

If the millions of working people make such a dedication, the Secretary said, "our prosperity will rest upon such a firm foundation of faith that our destiny as a people will be an actual fulfillment to the dreams of our fathers."

Mr. Mitchell said the crisis of every civilization is "whether or not it can successfully meet the challenge of loyalty to good in spite of sacrifice or surrender to evil."

When one eliminates God and the need for God "one eliminates the reasons for freedom," he said.

"Freedom, at root, derives from the validity of its basic concepts—human dignity equality, sacredness of the individual—from the truths of religion," Mr. Mitchell added.

## Dial-A-Prayer Service Growing

New York—(RNS)—Dial-a-prayer inspirational services have proved so popular they are being operated in an increasing number of cities by churches and YMCA's.

The latest groups to launch such a telephone service are Central Church of Christ in Nashville, Tenn., and First Presbyterian church at Orlando, Fla.

The Orlando church heard about a similar installation at Hitchcock Memorial (Presbyterian) church in Scarsdale, N. Y. The Nashville congregation undertook the service as a result of the success of a similar one at Central Church of Christ in Houston, Tex.

Churches or YMCA's also are furnishing the recorded messages in Chicago, Baltimore, Los Angeles, New York and Paterson, N. J.

O Merciful God, fill our hearts, we pray Thee, with the graces of Thy Holy Spirit, with love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. Teach us to love those who hate us; to pray for those who despitefully use us; that we may be the children of Thee, our Father, who makest Thy sun to shine on the evil and on the good, and sendest rain on the just and on the unjust. Amen.—Anselm (1033-1109)

## Two National Magazines Look At Arkansas

LAST week's issue of two national magazines, LIFE and COLLIER'S, carried articles concerning life in Arkansas.

The article in LIFE was under the caption "A Special Happy World For A Grandson." The setting for the article and the characters was at Batesville, Arkansas. It pictured in a normal, interesting manner the happy relationship existing between a patient grandfather and his six-year-old, admiring, frolicsome, enthusiastic grandson. It was such an article as would leave a reader feeling a little cleaner of soul and a little happier to be alive.

Incidentally, the leading picture illustrating the article increased the front page circulation of the Arkansas Methodist to more than five millions for the week. Our readers should see the picture and read the article.

The article in COLLIER'S ran under the caption, "Whittling Capital of America." Leslie, Arkansas was the setting for the article. In this article, in his misguided efforts to feel superior and to be humorous, the writer in a very abnormal and unreal manner attempts to revive the time-worn custom of describing life in Arkansas with the unveiled ridicule and sarcasm that, in by-gone years seemed to be amusing to those who did not know any better.

The tone of this article, the accompanying pictures and the misleading subject matter were such as to make it necessary for a religious minded Arkansan to pray for more grace in order to avoid saying something or doing something that would reflect on his calling.

We want to thank LIFE for a wholesome, stimulating presentation of a normal home life in Arkansas. We want to say a prayer for some contributors of COLLIER'S who apparently are so impoverished for ideas that they must go back into the dim limbo of yesteryears and attempt to resurrect long-discredited ideas about Arkansas for so much per line—not a very creditable way to make a living. We believe, also, that we could give COLLIER'S some valuable advice, if we were consulted, if at some future date some other writer, whose brain has lost its fertility and originality, submits another such article for publication.

## Christian Education Month

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION is basic in the program of The Methodist Church. Hence we have the custom of designating September as Christian Education Month.

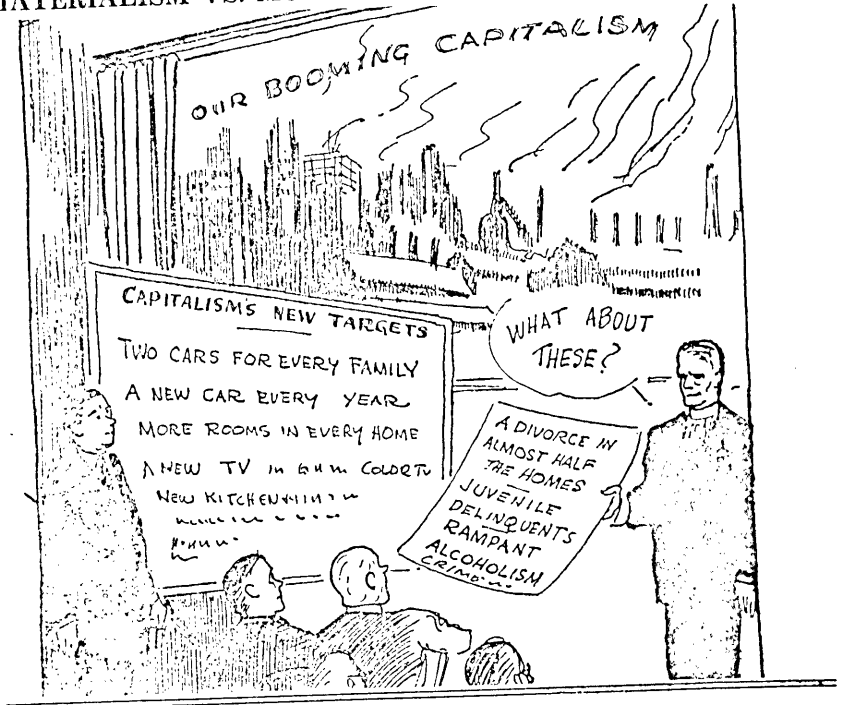
The conferences of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area are very fortunate in the leadership they have to direct this important work. It is doubtful if any three conferences in American Methodism can boast of more consecrated, capable, experienced leaders than direct the work of the Board of Education in our three Annual Conferences.

Under their leadership special emphasis will be given throughout the month of September to increased attendance and membership in the Church School. The month will climax with Church School Day, Rally Day and Promotibn Day. All who are interested in the Church School should take full advantage of this appointed time for increasing the attendance of the present enrollment and for bringing into the school many now outside who need so much what the Church School offers.

## Reports A Measure Of Freedom

CHURCH people who have an interest in international relations have undoubtedly been heartened by reports recently given wide publication concerning several church delegations which have visited Soviet Russia and which have reported that the cause of organized religion is prospering to a surprising degree. We have been particularly interested in reports now being circulated by American Baptist leaders recently returned from Russia that the Baptist movement is flourishing and there is a remarkable degree of religious freedom.

These reports coupled with the decreased world tension following the July Summit Meeting at Geneva of the four major world powers are likely to give rise to a rather hopeful feeling that the



prayers of Christian people are being answered to their liking.

Already we are being warned that such hope is ill-founded and that there are reasons to believe that Russian leaders are using this period of sweetness and accord to further their own evil designs. There is ample reason to be extremely cautious and suspicious when the record of Russia's dealings internationally is brought into review.

We believe, however, that it is the part of wisdom to take advantage of every opportunity to build up the spirit of positive goodwill based on today's findings, expecting the best, rather than to dwell exclusively on the mistakes of past years.

## Commendation For The Unorganized

NEXT MONDAY, September 5, is Labor Day, a holiday widely observed by United States and Canadian people as a tribute to the contribution which labor has made to the American life. There will be many speeches and editorials hailing the significance and place of organized labor in the American economy. Public officials will stress the responsibility which the labor movement has toward the total citizenship, a responsibility which has unquestionably increased with the steady growth and power of labor unions.

With all of these assertions there will be little disagreement for few would seriously question the accomplishments of organized labor as it has worked for better working conditions, better housing, a shorter work week, higher wages, and generally speaking for benefits that improve the lot of those who work for industry and commerce. Labor day will bring many commendations for organized labor groups. What about those who constitute the unorganized labor groups, numbering more than three times as many as those who belong to organized labor groups?

The day has long since passed when any one laboring group can successfully isolate itself from the rest of the citizenship without that isolation having an effect both on those who seek isolation and those from whom they have withdrawn. The age of specialization is with us and the general welfare of the whole citizenship is dependent upon the production and services rendered by every other group. Labor Day should be a time of remembering with appreciation the sizable contribution which a substantial portion of American citizenship, unorganized as well as organized labor, makes to the total welfare of everyone.

This contribution is all the more significant when it is remembered that those who constitute unorganized labor work without benefit of a collective bargaining agent. There are no means of calling any inequities to the public's attention, no lobbies are maintained in state capitols or Washington to protect their interests, and there are no press agents to keep the public informed of their needs. It is true that progress which organized labor has made has

(Continued on page 5)

## Arkansas Methodist

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## SENTINELS OF LIFE

A sentinel may be a most forbidding figure. Up the Hudson, at Sing Sing Prison, the walls and corridors are patrolled by guards who keep an eye on the inmates. Their purpose is to try to prevent escape. It must be a nerve-wracking experience to live constantly under the eye of watchmen. Under such strain, guilty men often do desperate things and innocent persons do queer ones.



But while we dread to be watched, we want watch kept for us. When we sleep at night, it is a comfort to know that uniformed policemen are pacing the streets around our homes, not to keep us from getting out, but to prevent dangers from breaking in upon us. When we sail the high seas, we trustfully close our eyes in the darkness because we know that faithful watch is being kept on the bridge.

When in sickness we toss restlessly during those fitful snatches of slumber, what a difference it makes whether we open our eyes to the lonely darkness or to the sympathetic gaze of a relative or nurse, keeping the silent watches of the night. When we are in those troubled hours of deep decision where each must walk alone with his God, it is good to know that some friend or loved one has come as far as another human being can come and is watching and praying for us.

But it is not only when we are sick, or sleeping, or in distress that we need sentinel eyes to look out for us. We need these even more in the times of our busiest activity. When a person feels himself to be physically fit and goes forging ahead, then he needs the sentinels of health to look out for symptoms afar off. When business is booming, we need the seers of economic trends to forecast the perils and thereby prevent panics.

The more complex life becomes, the more specialized our occupations, the faster our pace of living, the more imperative is the need of sentinels to watch out for us. The homely old colloquial counsel of "keeping one's nose to the grindstone" is hardly adequate for our speeding age. There must be some looking up and looking out, or both the grinder and the grindstone

will get smashed.

If you are a lawyer, then you need your bar association to watch the trends and safeguard the interests of your profession. If you are a doctor, your medical society seeks to protect you from quacks and charlatans. If you are a factory worker, you need representatives of labor to preserve honesty, efficiency and fair play. If you are a teacher, you have your educational associations to watch against political or class interests which would threaten to muzzle your teaching or menace your tenure of employment.

But whatever our profession or occupation, we are all human beings and as such, we need the sentinels of God to watch out for us. That is what the prophet Isaiah declared in his day when he interpreted God as saying, "I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem."

Those watchmen of God of whom Isaiah announced were not like the guards on prison walls. Their function was not to keep the people in, but to keep dangers out. That was the conception of divine care as portrayed in the Old Testament.

In this latter sense may we look at a few of the sentinels of life whom God has placed on our walls. Think of the fathers and mothers who watched over us when we were too small and too thoughtless to look out for ourselves. Think of the teachers who on very small salaries patiently guided our growing minds and helped to give us the compass of character. Do not forget the friends who stood by us when otherwise we would have fallen. Yes, and that church on the corner which looked after our community's welfare even when we neglected it.

During the last two decades we have been so conscious of dangerous and subversive influences that we have been on the watch for evils. We still need to be alert to them. But let's balance this fear of what others may do TO us by our gratitude for what God and others have done FOR us.

### COMMENDATION FOR THE UNORGANIZED

(Continued from page 4)

indirectly benefited unorganized labor. At the same time unorganized labor produces many goods and performs many services without which organized labor groups could not long exist on the same level of living or working.

On this Labor Day remember unorganized labor groups as well as the organized ones.

### The Layman's Column

By Charles A. Stuck  
Lay Leader  
North Arkansas Conference



#### THE LAYMEN'S RETREAT

This column is intended to be useful to laymen and lay women over the entire area of Arkansas and Louisiana. But those outside of the North Arkansas Conference will please excuse this week's message directed especially to men in the North Arkansas Conference. It's no secret, however, so anyone may read it, of course.

For a number of years it has been the practice over the entire country to hold Laymen's retreats; meetings held especially for men, with programs beamed at their needs and their hopes. The work of the Church in its many fields, as well as the specific program of Lay Activities, are studied by the men at these meetings. Any man who has attended one of these retreats has been helped very much. It always gives a fellow a chance to separate himself from his business and his ordinary life, and meditate on the things God has in store for him. There are always some inspirational speakers . . . both ministers and laymen . . . who talk out of their hearts about God's call to men.

Here in North Arkansas we are planning the first Conference-wide Laymen's Retreat that we have ever attempted. The date has been set as October 8-9. It will be held on Mount Petit Jean, just outside of Morrilton. The facilities for taking care of a large crowd are excellent. Our program is completed and promises to be challenging to all who attend. It is our hope that every year from now on we may be able to have such a meeting especially for the men.

Look up your calendar NOW and set down the dates of October 8 and 9. Then get in touch with your pastor and ask him the details about registering. Copies of the program will be placed in the hands of the District Superintendents by the time you read these lines. The Superintendents will give copies of the program to the pastors, who in turn will have them for you. Instructions about cost, registration, etc., will be

### On A Wide Circuit

W. W. Reid

#### THE CHURCHES GET A NEW OPPORTUNITY

The slick-paper house-organ of one of America's largest industrial concerns takes great comfort in the "spiritual upsurge sweeping the American people today." And there is a note of particular pride that its own religious survey among the company's employees indicate that the group's own church membership rose from 75% in 1948 to 89% in 1953—and seems still growing.

The "upsurge" of church membership and of church attendance in the United States today (not to be confused with "spiritual upsurge") is truly something to note and ponder—and to be encouraged by. The statistics of both the U. S. Bureau of the Census and of the National Council of the Churches seem more remarkable with each year's revision. We hear that in this year (1955) 55% of America's people belong to some church; while in 1850 only about 15% were so enrolled. We hear also that, at the time of the writing of the American Constitution and the Bill of Rights ("documents which were founded on the Holy Bible and the deep religious spirit of the colonists and Founding Fathers"), considerably less than 15% of the people had their names enrolled on church registers. A recent tabulation shows that the membership of eighteen larger Protestant denominations increased by 42.7% between 1929 and 1952; and the membership of Roman Catholic Churches in the U.S.A. by 50.7% during the same period. And the rate of increase of all groups was more rapid from 1942 to 1952 than in the earlier years of the quarter century.

on the programs.

Please announce this to the men's classes in your church. Ask your pastor to help you secure a delegation from your church. This meeting should be the beginning of series of annual retreats which should make us all more effective workers in God's cause.

Now there are almost as many conclusions being drawn from these figures as there are people drawing them. On the whole, church leaders are happy with the growing interest, though none see it in the millenium and few even a national revival of religion. There is something real and tangible, however, if only that more people seem to be seeking the power or the consolation of *faith in something or someone*. This is attested also by the religious books on best-seller lists, and the tremendous audiences the "ratings" indicate for religious programs on TV and radio.

Not all the clergy would interpret this in our house-organ's enthusiastic finding: "This renewed interest finds man today weighing his actions and the actions of others in terms of basic moral and spiritual values. He is re-evaluating the real meaning of life, seeking reassurance for his doubts . . . This interest in moral behavior also carries with it a deep and spiritual re-examination of life's purposes and meaning. People are questioning social and economic concepts in terms of religious experiences." And, beginning with the very next sentence, the writer abruptly dives into a defense of "competitive enterprise," "material advances" and "improved living standard" as having provided "the economic basis for spiritual satisfaction, cultural opportunities and family rewards 'such as no other people have.'" (In passing, he takes a shot at the pulpit that attacks "pagan materialism"—confusing the hearer who thinks it means the economic system that has made America great.)

Some others would have us believe that much "membership increase" is merely a new consciousness on the part of clergy and boards in keeping statistics and enrolling people—perhaps instead of "converting" them. Yet others assert it grows from fear, from insecurity, from a blind groping—characteristics of our day. Dean Pike reminds us that "doing the truth" is more than joining a church: "The thought of 'going back to God' is often more of a folk nostalgia than a serious personal commitment, in head and heart, to a God who judges as well as saves. It is often 'the American way of life' that is being deified—with God as an acolyte in its worship."

I believe, however, that—whatever the conflux of causes bringing more people into the churches—we can all join with Moderator Oscar A. Benson, of Minneapolis, in warning and rejoicing that the churches have "a glorious day of opportunity" to reach these newcomers with the whole truth and application of the Gospel.



## Fun For The Family

The Department of the Christian Family of the General Board of Education now has for distribution a series of eight leaflets called "Family Fun Kit."

The leaflets contain fine suggestions on practically all phases of family recreation. They are written by persons who have had successful experience in providing fun for their families.

The kits are 15 cents each; \$3.50 for 25; \$12.00 for a hundred. Single leaflets are \$1.00 a hundred.

The titles alone of these leaflets make interesting reading. They are: Family Fun (3057-C), Travel with the Family (3058-C), Home Recreation Equipment (3095-C, Crafts for the Family (3060-C), Parties for Children (3061-C), Nature and the Family (3062-C), Family Camping (3063-C), Fun in Your Back Yard (3064-C).

Order from Service Department General Board of Education, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee. Please send cash or check with order.

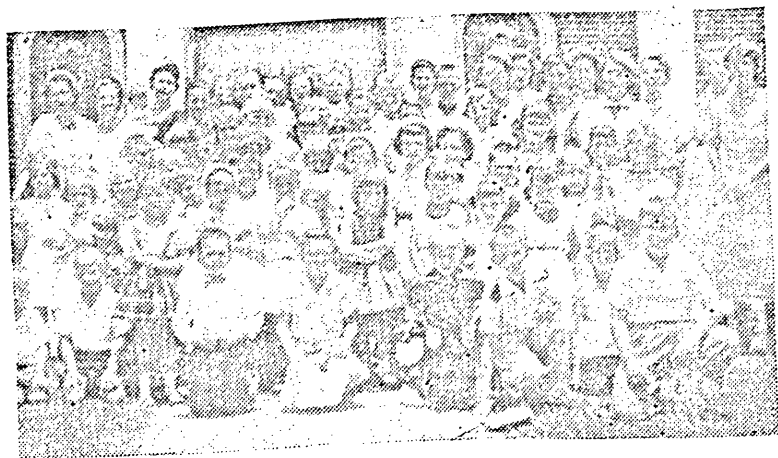
## VACATION CHURCH SCHOOLS

### Gardner Memorial

There was an enrollment of 185 children and 48 workers in the Gardner Memorial Vacation Church School which was recently held.

"Happy Experiences at Home" was the theme for the three-year olds. Mrs. Neil Sharp was the leader. Mrs. Robert Williams, superintendent of the Kindergarten Department, led in their study, "My Home and Family." Mrs. Oscar Goss, superintendent of the Primary Department, had charge of the Primaries who used "At School With Jesus" and "Jesus and His Neighbors." Mrs. George Moon, superintendent of the Junior Department, led the Juniors in "Living in Our Community." Our responsibility to the community as a citizen and the community's responsibility to its citizens were discussed.

The offering brought by the chil-



ZACHARY SCHOOL

Pictured above is the Vacation Church School of the Zachary Methodist Church which was conducted by Mrs. Morgan Lipcomb, superin-

## When Children Give

When Children Give, 1955-1956 is an attractive folder issued by the Joint Department of Missionary Education and the Dept. of Christian Education of Children for use with missionary units in the church school and additional sessions. It contains pictures and short statements designed to increase the interest of Primary and Junior children in the work of the church among Indian Americans and shows how the gospel is being spread today in many countries. It shows different ways the money they contribute to missions is being used.

Miss E. Mae Young, staff member of the Joint Department of Missionary Education and of the Department of Christian Education of Children, said it is hoped that leaders will get enough of the folders for each Primary and Junior child to take home when they study missions in January.

Prices of the folder are: single copy, 15 cents; in dozen kits, 8 cents each. Order When Children Give 1955-1956 (166-H) from The Methodist Publishing House that serves you or from Literature Headquarters, 7829 Reading Road, Cincinnati 37, Ohio.

dren amounted to \$45.12. This was divided among the Children's Convalescent Center at Jacksonville, the Sunshine Fund at the State Sanatorium at Booneville and an Indian Mission School in Oklahoma.

Tray cards, mounted pictures, clothespin dolls of Bible characters, puppet with get-well cards and pottery plaques with scripture verses were sent to different hospitals.

The children presented the Sunday evening service with the pastor, Rev. E. B. Williams, closing with a brief message. A display of the children's work was held in fellowship hall and refreshments were served.—Mrs. J. E. King, Dean.

tendent of the Children's Division of the Church School. Ninety-three children were enrolled with a staff of eighteen workers.

## CLASS GIVES SCHOLARSHIP TO JAPANESE STUDENT



Pictured above is the Fellowship Class of the First Methodist Church of Hammond who recently presented a \$300 check for a scholarship for a Japanese student to enter the International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan. Top row, left to right, Rev. Edward R. Thomas, Rufus Carroll, (presenting check to Mr. Thomas), Robert Brown, C. A. Saint, E. A. Courtney, teacher of the class, Mrs. Russell Williams, Mrs. E. H. Edwards, Mrs. C. A. Saint. Bottom row, left to right, Mrs. Rufus Carroll, Miss Edith Robinson, Mrs. Carl Cut-

rer, Mrs. Hardy Cox, Mrs. George Hinkson, Mrs. Robert Brown and Mrs. Bill Thompson.

Not present in the picture are the following who assisted in raising the money for the scholarship: Mrs. and Mrs. John Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Barineau, Mrs. Ray Allen Durand, Mrs. Earl Edwards, Mrs. Clyde Funderburk, George Hinkson, Mrs. Claude Hooks, Mrs. Edward King, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Le Blanc, Mrs. J. N. McNamara, Mrs. L. E. Rownd, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Vickers, Russell Williams and E. H. Edwards.

## JUNIOR CHILDREN'S CAMP AT LOGOLY

The week of August 15th Jackson Street Church at Magnolia had the annual Junior Children's Camp at Camp Logoly. Some 40 children and adult instructors were in attendance. Materials used were "Juniors in God's World," with the Pupil's Text Book: "Adventures and Discoveries in God's World."

In charge of the camp were: Mrs. Leslie Wilson, Mrs. W. O. Walthall, Mrs. Harold Weldon, Mrs. J. J. Jameson, Mrs. Ray Foil, Mrs. Lon Starr, Lon Starr, Therrol Wilson, Miss Pat Keith, Miss Mary Annis Reeves, and the pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Tucker. The pastor had charge of the devotional service each morning upon arriving at the camp site, using as his general theme: "Traveling on the Highway of Life." Topics of discussion each morning were: "Travelers on Life's Highway," "Journeying With Christ on Life's Highway," "Climbing The Mountains of Life," and "Walking With Our Parents on Life's Highway." The last devotional was given by Rev. Carl Beard, of Jackson Street Church, who will be a ministerial student at Hendrix College when school opens in September. Mr. Beard has attended Arkadelphia State Teacher's College for the past two years. He will enter SMU for his Seminar work when through at Hendrix.

One day at camp the children, with their adult leaders prepared their own noon day meal on the camp fire. The closing day of the

## STATEMENT ON CHURCH AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

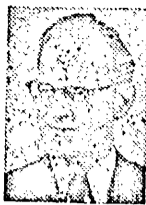
Parents seeking proper education for their children and others interested in the relation of religion and the public schools should read the new leaflet, Statement on Church and Public Schools Relations.

This leaflet (501-B) is free and may be ordered from the Service Department, General Board of Education, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee.

The statement was adopted by the General Board of Education at its last meeting. Rev. Thomas J. Van Loon, director of Church and Public School Relations, said: "Articles soon to be published carry references to this statement. It points directions and offers guidance to the local church on a vital matter. I think it worthy of study by all Methodists—especially parents of school children."

Mr. Van Loon also suggests that workers in the field of church and public school relations might be interested in the monthly Newsletter of the White House Conference on Education. This may be secured from Mr. Clint Pace, director, White House Conference, Health, Education and Welfare Building, South, Washington 25, D. C.

camp a picnic dinner was spread together. The children were divided into three groups, according to ages. — Mrs. Loyd Beard, Church Secretary.



A lady asked me to do a thing that, were I to comply, would imperil my life and limb—to say nothing of my career and fortune. Having read the firing I did at the title "district superintendent", she asked me to turn my guns on the title "Woman's Society of Christian Service."

"Even more," she urged, "turn them on the title 'Secretary of Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities of the Woman's Society of Christian Service'."

My dear lady, I refuse to snap even a cap pistol at SCSSLCAW-SCS.

I've stuck by a pledge I made to myself as a pastor seeking to live and do well, never, never to meddle in the internal affairs of the WSCS—or the external, or the infernal. None, that is.

I've lived a long, long time and done far, far better than I or my family or my friends or my enemies ever dreamed I would. Most of this howling success is due directly to the benign guidance of that blessed pledge. To it I'll stick till the cows come home or till I go home.

Therefore, my good lady, I must refrain from shooting at any of the titles relative to the WSCS.

You might take your problem of long titles to one in your sisterhood who is more careless of life and limb, career and fortune, than I find it in my heart to be.

I'll limit my firing to the target of the title "district superintendent". It's not only safer—it's safe.

## World Methodist Conference Plans Being Made

Lake Junaluska, N. C.—(M.I.)—Program plans are shaping up for the World Methodist Conference to be held September 1-16, 1956, at Lake Junaluska, N. C.

Approximately 1100 delegates and accredited visitors, plus a host of other visitors, are expected to attend the international sessions, according to Dr. Elmer T. Clark of Lake Junaluska, secretary of the World Methodist Council, following a meeting with Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, St. Louis, Mo., council president.

The meeting at Lake Junaluska will be the ninth in a series that began in 1881 in London. The last conference was held at Oxford University in 1951.

"Methodism in the Contemporary World" has been selected as the general theme of the 1956 conference, centering around platform speakers and discussion groups.

The British Methodist Church has already named 46 clerical and lay delegates to the conference, Dr. Clark said, and the names of other delegates are expected soon from Methodist communions in Europe, North America, Central and South America, the West Indies, Africa, Asia and Australasia.

Preliminary plans for the conference were drafted by the executive committee of the World Methodist Council in June at its annual meeting in Belfast, Ireland.

The World Federation of Meth-

## Educators Reaffirm Hope In Christian Techniques

### Brazil Methodist General Conference Reports Growth

Two new bishops were elected and a report emphasizing the growth of the Methodist Church of Brazil was given at the General Conference of the church in Rio de Janeiro late in July. Among the Conference visitors were Bishop and Mrs. Ivan Lee Holt of St. Louis, and Mrs. C. I. Jones, New Orleans. Mrs. Jones is president of the Louisiana Conference Woman's Society.

The Methodist Church of Brazil is an autonomous church, affiliated with the Methodist Church in the United States through a Central Council of fifteen Brazilians and fifteen missionaries. Membership is more than 60,000 in three conferences. Bishops are elected for four-year terms.

One of the new bishops, the Rev. Joao Augusto do Amaral of Petropolis, has been the superintendent of the Petropolis district and pastor of the Petropolis Methodist Church. He is president of the Methodist Association, the holding body for all Methodist property in Brazil. He will be bishop of the Northern Conference.

The Rev. Jose Pedro Pinheiro of Cachoeira also was elected a bishop. A former Southern Conference treasurer, Bishop Pinheiro has been superintendent of the Methodist Home for Orphans in Santa Maria. He will administer the Southern Conference.

A report given at the General Conference stated that in the last five years a new church has been built every 21 days and a new parsonage every 41 days.

Two bishops, one a Brazilian and one a veteran missionary who formerly did evangelistic work in remote parts of Brazil on horseback, were made bishops emeritus and one bishop was re-elected. One general secretary of the church was re-elected and two new secretaries were elected.

The bishops and the general secretaries constitute the General Cabinet of the Methodist Church of Brazil.

Two representatives of the Board of Missions, Dr. James E. Ellis, administrative secretary for Latin America of the Division of World Missions, and Miss Marian Derby, executive secretary for Latin America of the Woman's Division of Christian Service, were fraternal delegates to the conference. The Rev. H. Burnham Kirkland, treasurer of the Division of World Missions, also attended.

If the author of a book, or the composer of a work of music inscribes his production to "a patron or friend, in testimony of respect and affection," how much more we need to bear testimony of our love for One Who loved us so much that He gave His very life for us! This, simply, is why we dedicate ourselves.—Bishop Edgar A. Love

odist Women will meet August 28-31 at Lake Junaluska ahead of the conference.

Cleveland, O.—(NC)—More than 7,000 church school teachers and leaders, bound together in the nation's oldest ecumenical movement, gave historic proof recently of the ever renewing vitality of the Christian faith.

Meeting here in the same great auditorium that gave birth to the National Council of Churches—this century's greatest adventure in church cooperation—delegates to the 23rd International Sunday School Convention made it plain that

(1) Christian education—the only instrument for perpetuating the faith—is definitely on the upswing, and

(2) Through the alert use of modern approaches and techniques, dedicated thousands in the Sunday School movement offer today's one great challenge to the cultural and moral crisis of our time.

These two facts came out in remarks of speakers and convention leaders. They were evident in the vast array of exhibits—covering 13,000 square feet of floor—and the throngs that viewed them. Most of all they showed

### Delegation of Dutch Council Visits Russia

Netherlands—(E.P.S.)—The delegation of the Ecumenical Council of the Netherlands which paid a visit to the Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church in June reported to the Council on its stay in Russia. The delegation of four consisted of two members of the Reformed Church, one Old Catholic and one Baptist.

"The delegation," says the report, "had ample opportunity to take note of public life in Russia. The mutual understanding on church life in East and West, which became apparent notably concerning ecumenical cooperation between the churches in the West, was of great value. Many conversations with prominent church leaders, both of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Baptist Church took place in an open spirit. The delegation concluded from this that the Russian churches and their lay members seriously intend and long to come into closer contact with Christians outside Russia. The delegation visited seminaries, academies, libraries and other institutions of culture and science. The churches were crowded, though the services took place, not only on Sundays, but also on week-days. There has been a marked revival of religious life during the past twenty years. Youth also participates in church life, though the Orthodox Church has no special organizations for the younger members of the church. There is an increasing interest in the priesthood as a vocation. The delegation learned that in a congregation near Moscow all children are still baptized. Several times the visitors were given the opportunity at the end of the service to address the congregation.

"The delegation was impressed by a religious life which is deep-rooted among the people," the report goes on to say. "Though anti-religious propaganda is still pursued by the state it has been carried out along different lines in the past few years. The system aims at extermination of religion, but it cannot deny the phenomenon of a prospering and growing church life. The delegation trusts that this first official contact with the Russian church will lead to a return visit of this church to the churches of the Netherlands. The visit has answered expectations, not least because Russian church leaders were willing to face up to critical questions which the delegation put to them."

Egypt—Christopher, Patriarch of Alexandria, accompanied by two archimandrites, has sailed to Russia for the purpose of participating in the feast of St. Sergius.

in the enthusiasm of those attending—from the U.S.A. and Canada chiefly, with a liberal sprinkling from lands overseas.

"Teach Christ Now" was the theme of the great meeting, 23rd in a line that goes back to a gathering in New York, in 1832. And the urgency of the task was sounded on opening night by Harold E. Stassen, 'Secretary for Peace' in the Eisenhower Cabinet, and president of the Convention since 1942.

The note of urgency was again sounded toward the close of the five day convention in a message adopted by voice vote from the floor. Declared the unique pronouncement:

"As Christians . . . we have a special responsibility. The warm heart of Christianity cannot long tolerate a cold war. There is no Iron Curtain in the Gospel."

Citing juvenile delinquency, disturbed family life and racial tensions, the message said, "We have been poignantly aware that all is not well in our communities . . . We call upon ourselves and all other Christian teachers to study and to work for cities founded on righteousness and bound together by love."

In the convention's strongest statement of concern, Dr. Paul Calvin Payne, of Philadelphia, told delegates that man's best hope in the atomic era is to "produce in a short time the kind of men and women who can be trusted to use fantastic powers for some better purpose than to make fantastic weapons, or to commit fantastic sins."

To do this job, the church leader urged, "We must swiftly commit and train a great army of volunteer teachers both in the home and the church."

The convention dispersed itself into 89 interest groups during its sessions. They covered every possible phase of activity in which a Sunday school teacher can engage in carrying out his task. They reinforced the wealth of ideas, suggestions, counsel and reassurance poured forth by the wide variety of church leaders who addressed the convention.

The concluding session was marked by the solemnity of a prayer of rededication to the teaching tasks. More than 7,000 men and women, with heads bowed and eyes closed, joined in the prayer in the vast darkened auditorium before the shining figure of a giant Christ on the stage.

For this final session Dr. Charles B. "Chuck" Templeton, noted evangelist, and Dr. Gerald E. Knoff, executive secretary of the Division of Christian Education, dwelt upon the impossibility of freedom apart from God.

# METHODIST CHURCH

## PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP and ATTENDANCE

### September 25 - 30

#### MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN

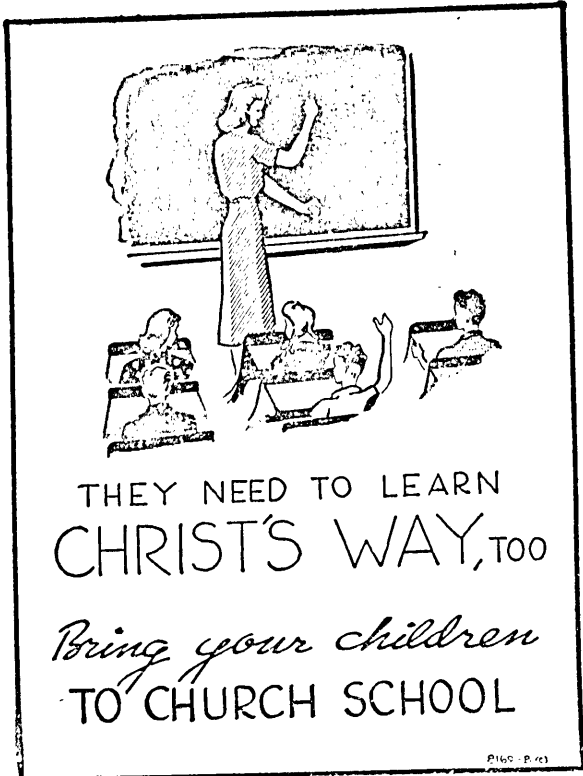
The Cabinets of the Little Rock and North Arkansas Conferences, during their sessions at the respective annual conferences, approved a plan for church school membership and attendance emphasis during the month of September.

There has not been a state-wide emphasis on church school membership and attendance since the days of the Crusade for Christ in the late 40's. However, the two conferences have made splendid progress both in membership and attendance. We believe the time is now ready for an expansion of our church school program in the reaching of many more people.

Through the cooperation of Bishop Martin, our district superintendents, pastors and laymen, we believe that many thousands of new pupils can be brought into our church schools.

This program is important not only from the standpoint of the church school itself, but for every interest of the church.

The annual conference reports on additions on profession of faith indicate that at least seventy-five per cent of all persons coming into



the church on profession of faith are members of the church school at the time they united with the church. Very few persons come into the fellowship of the church who have not at some time been members of some church school.

The stewardship program would be greatly strengthened through increased church school membership and attendance.

The missionary cultivation program of the church school is an important part of the missionary cultivation program of the church.

Let us strengthen our church schools and thus provide Christian teaching for more people, and at the same time increase the power of our churches in the community life and in the homes of our people.

As the church school grows, so will the church of tomorrow largely be.

#### LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

September 25 - 30

A part of the fall round-up in the Little Rock Conference will be a series of District Workshops during Christian Education Week, September 25-30.

##### Nationally Known Leaders

These workshops will be under the direction of nationally known leaders, all members of the Staff of the General Board of Education.

**Dr. Walter Towner**, Director of the Department of General Church School Work, will lead the discussion on Church school administration for pastors, general and assistant superintendents, chairmen of commissions on education, secretaries and other general church school officers.

**Dr. Robert S. Clemmons** of the Department of Adult Education will work with officers, teachers and others interested in adult groups.

**Rev. Lewis E. Durham** of the Youth Division will meet with officers and teachers and other workers with youth in the local church.

**Miss LaDonna Bogardus** of the Children's Division Staff will lead those planning the work for children.

##### The Schedule

Pine Bluff District—First Methodist Church, Pine Bluff—September 25  
Little Rock District—First Methodist Church, Little Rock, September 26  
Arkadelphia District—First Methodist Church, Arkadelphia—September 27  
Hope District—First Methodist Church, Texarkana—September 28  
Camden District—First Methodist Church, Camden—September 29  
Monticello District—First Methodist Church, Monticello—September 30

#### INCREASING MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

The two conferences in Arkansas are Cr... gains in church school membership and attendance. The emphasis there has been continued and we believe that even greater increases could be attained this time.

The Cabinets of the two conferences are placing a special emphasis on church school membership and attendance during the month of September.

Through the cooperation of the and the Methodist Churches in Arkansas, our Church Schools of this state can greatly increase the number of persons being reached by the program and the number of persons enrolled in the Nursery Home program.

Through this program our churches are giving parents that little children may get adequate Christian training.

The increasing number of older people offers a challenge to expand the work of the church. Many could be added to the membership of the church school alone. The church should not forget the number of persons whom have served the church well in the past.

This last year of the quadrennium showed a number of youth reached by our church. We are confident there is a growing number of persons who are being

There are yet many adults in the church who are not enrolled in the membership of our church schools. Let us reach persons with our program of Christian Education.

I shall look forward with interest to working with you from the various districts.

The plan for increasing church school membership for the following program of action is as follows:

The making of adequate lists of prospects for church school membership.

The selection and training of an adequate staff of church school workers.

Period of visitation during the month of September to enlist the prospects in church school membership.

Church school membership survey to be made by each church in the respective district on Monday, September 25.

The district superintendent and secretary to the Executive Secretary of the Board of Christian Education.

The following items are to be reported to the district superintendent:

1. Number of prospects listed  
2. Number of visitors  
3. Number of visits made  
4. New church school pupils enrolled  
5. Sunday school attendance  
6. Total church school membership

The local church will need to have a complete religious census be made in order to carry out this program.

Each church school will need to have a complete religious census be made in order to carry out this program.

Each local church will also need to have a complete religious census be made in order to carry out this program.

Cash is to accompany order for the census cards.

Each local church will also need to have a complete religious census be made in order to carry out this program.



# SCHOOLS of ARKANSAS

## ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN

### October 2, 1955

#### MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Crusade for Christ made great gains in membership and attendance. Without a state-wide special emphasis at

approved a plan for increased attendance

laymen of the Methodist Church member of personnel of church schools.

er of persons church schools. Guidance for start in their



Bishop Martin

ers the church school a great Department. Many thousands of church schools through this department number of older adults, many of

w a great increase in the number of youth age range.

o of our churches who are not members. Let us reach more of these

g the reports on this program

*Paul E. Martin*

membership and attendance calls

ch school.

oup of visitors to reach all the

ember 25-October 2, in an effort to increase membership and attendance.

October 2.

o the district superintendent of this report is to be tabulated by Paul E. Martin and to the Executive Board of the annual conference.

r 2. Two types of materials in

kind of careful survey. Should the Religious Census Card may be obtained from Box 871, Nashville, Tennessee, or from list 10-C, Religious Census

Prospect Card, which may be obtained from the Service Department. When the Membership Prospect Card is ordered from the Service De-

#### PREPARATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN

It is important that the church schools of the Methodist Churches in Arkansas not only bring more persons into the membership of the church schools, but that a better program of work be provided for those now enrolled and those to be enrolled.

This means that much effort should be put forth during the month of September in the careful selection and training of an adequate staff of church school officers and teachers to carry on the work of the new church school year, which begins with Sunday, October 2.

The leadership of our church schools is far more adequate than that of a few years' ago, but we still need more and better trained leaders.

The Commission on Education in the local church will need to study very carefully the needs of the local church school and plan such improvements as can be made in terms of class groupings, space arrangement, equipment, literature, and training of leadership.

That the church as a whole may have a greater vision of the work of the church school every church school should plan for a church observance of church School Rally Day during the month of September, preferably September 25. Splendid program materials can be had as guidance materials for Church School Rally Day observance, by writing the conference office of the Board of Education.

Careful plans should be made for the observance of Christian Education Week, September 25-October 2. The membership and attendance campaign will certainly be a part of this Christian Education Week emphasis.

Many church schools will find it possible to plan for a special study enterprise for the training of present and future officers and teachers.

The church schools of the two conferences will have been offered by the end of September an informal training opportunity through the district institutes being conducted in the two annual conferences.

Where church schools cannot provide training opportunities for their workers through formal training schools, every effort should be made to encourage individual workers to take home study courses. Information concerning these courses can be had from the conference Executive Secretary of the Board of Education.

AS LONG AS YOU LIVE  
*you learn*

*face today's problems*  
**WITH CHRIST'S HELP**  
**ATTEND CHURCH SCHOOL**

8169-B (2)

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION INSTITUTES

##### North Arkansas Conference

Five district Christian Education institutes are being held in the North Arkansas Conference this week:

Searcy District at Searcy, August 29

Batesville District at Batesville, August 30

Jonesboro District at Jonesboro, August 31

Paragould District at Pocahontas, September 1

Forrest City District at Forrest City, September 2

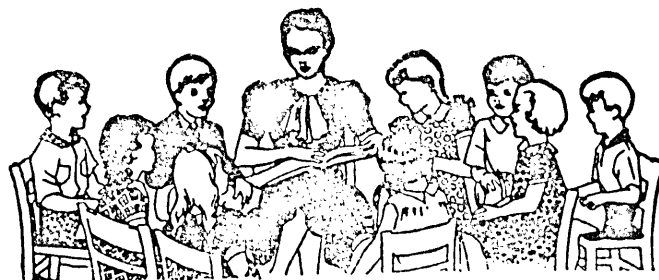
The Fayetteville District institute was held at Mt. Sequoyah during the leadership school on July 13.

The Fort Smith District institute will be held in Fort Smith on September 13.

The Conway District institute will be held at Morrilton on September 15.

Leadership from the Leadership School assisted with the institute at Fayetteville.

Miss Vera Zimmerman and Rev. Robert Clemmons from the General Board are assisting in the institutes this week.



A STORY OF BIRD BEAKS

By Anna King Davis

IT was a stormy afternoon. There was no sun and dark clouds hung low. Birds scurried about looking for food to fill their stomachs before nightfall.

A black capped chickadee was the first to discover the large piece of stale bread I had fastened between two limbs of a peach tree in our yard. Rejoicing, he perched on the top of the bread and started pecking away. Peck, peck, peck—his small, stubby beak was perfect for finding insects on the bark of trees but could not break the hard crust. He changed positions and tried another spot but without success.

Just then a pair of cardinals saw the bread and flew into the tree to investigate. Mrs. Cardinal settled on a limb near the bread and reached over to take a bite. But not a crumb could she loosen. The bread was hard as wood. Father Cardinal tried. His heavy, strong beak could break open seeds and nuts like a nut cracker. But the piece of bread was much too large to get in his beak. He tried to break off a piece along the edge but could not. So he joined Mrs. Cardinal in a lilac near by. They sat and looked hungrily at the bread.

"Pick," "pick", a little downy woodpecker called to them as he lit on the trunk of the peach tree and proceeded to hitch his way up. His stiff tail was used like a prop when he stopped to investigate rough places in the bark. Finally he reached the chunk of bread. He picked, picked at it, using his head like a hammer. Soon he had drilled some small holes. Then he pried off small pieces of the hard bread with his chisel-like beak. The cardinals and chickadee ate these crumbs as they fell to the ground.

Little downy woodpecker picked and pried at the bread until he had disposed of most of the hard outer crust. Then he ate and ate of the stale bread.

When he had finished, he hitched his way on up to the top of the tree, probing for insects as he went. Finally he flew to the woods, followed by the chickadees grateful "dee dees" and the cardinals thankful "chips."

A GREAT MISSIONARY

Some years ago in a manufacturing town in Scotland a young woman applied to the superintendent of a Sunday School for a class. At his suggestion, he gathered a class of poor boys. The superintendent told them to come to his home during the week and he would get them each a new suit of clothes. They came and were nicely fitted out.

The worst and most unpromising boy in the class was a lad named Bob. After two or three Sundays he was missing, and the teacher went to hunt him up. She found that his new clothes were torn and dirty, but she invited him back to school.

The superintendent gave him a second new suit, but after attending once or twice the teacher sought him out, only to find that the second suit had gone the way of the first.

"I am utterly discouraged about Bob," she said, when she reported

GOD'S BIRD

The educated daughter of an Omaha chief tells the following story. It illustrates the method by which the red man trains his children:

I remember the first time I ever heard the name of God. I was a very little girl, playing about the tent one summer day, when I found a little bird lying hurt on the ground. It was a fledgling that had fallen from the tree and fluttered some distance from the nest.

"Ah," I thought, "now this is mine." I was delighted, and ran the case to the superintendent, "and must give him up."

"Please don't do that," said the superintendent; "I cannot but hope there is something good in Bob. Try him once more. I'll give him a third suit of clothes if he will promise to attend regularly."

Bob did promise, and received his third new suit. He attended regularly after that and got interested in the school. Later he was made a teacher, and studied for the ministry.

The end of the story is that discouraging Bob—that forlorn, ragged runaway Bob—became the Rev. Robert Morrison, the great missionary to China, who translated the Bible into the Chinese language.—Ex.

about with it in my hand.

"What have you there, Luette?" said one of the men who was at work in the field.

"It's a bird. It is mine," I said. He looked at it. "No, it is not yours. You must not hurt it. You have no right to it."

"Not mine?" I said. "I found it. Whose is it then?"

"It is God's, you must give it back to him."

I did not dare to disobey. "Where is God? How shall I give it back to him?"

"He is here. Go to the high grass yonder near its nest, and lay it down, and say, 'God, here is thy bird again.' He will hear you."

I went to the tall grass, crying and awed, and did as he bid me. I laid it down on the grass in a warm, sunny spot, and said, "God here is thy bird again."

I never forgot that lesson.—Christian Observer

SPEAKING OF FAIRIES

By Nancy Byrd Turner

Oh, to be a fairy!  
Quick from flower to flower,  
Bathing in a tulip  
After every shower.

Loafing on a lily,  
Trailing through a tree,  
Napping 'neath a mushroom,  
Riding on a bee.

True, the fairies tremble  
For their fragile wings,  
Have to keep an eye on  
Spider webs and things;

Have to scurry under  
Leaves and hide themselves  
Now from clumsy mortals,  
Now from impish elves.

All the same they're happy  
Skipping in the sun,  
If you are a fairy  
Every minute's fun!

—Youth's Companion

CHILDREN'S SECRET

By Norma W. Mellen

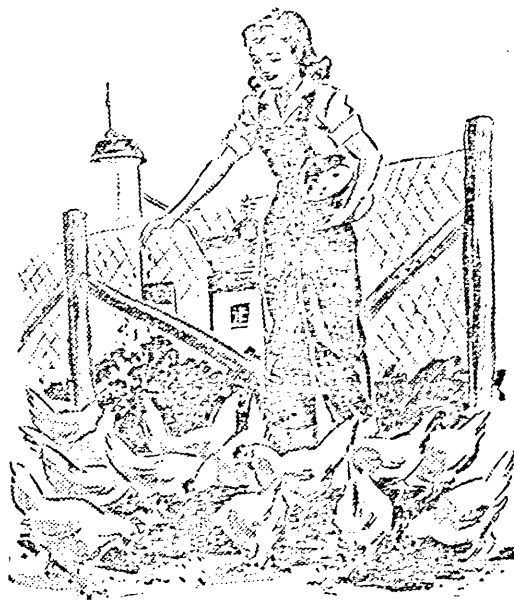
When bedtime comes I'm tired  
(Or so it seems to me).  
But by the time my prayers are said,  
I'm sleepy as can be.

Mom says, "Good night, get lots of  
rest,"  
Then tucks me into bed.  
Next thing I know I hear her call,  
Wake up, you sleepy head!"

I jump right up, put on my clothes,  
All set to go and play.  
My mom can't understand such pep  
So early in the day.

I cannot, tell her what I know—  
It's just for girls and boys.  
While we are sleeping in the night,  
God winds us up like toys!

—In The Christian Advocate



SUMMER JOYS

One of the joys of summer days  
Is finding many different ways  
To be a friend.

The chickens all have to be fed,  
Before their time to go to bed  
At each day's end.

The other friends who have no words,  
Our pets, the squirrels, the singing birds,  
All these have needs.

True happiness this service brings,  
A joy in doing kindly things  
And gracious deeds.—A.E.W.

JUST FOR FUN

Harold: "Did you hear about the fish that had the measles?"  
Louise: "No, how's he doing?"  
Harold: "Pretty well. He just has them on a small scale."

There was a sudden knock on the door. The robber and his accomplice dashed to the window. "Quick! Jump out the window," said one. The other robber gasped. "But we're 13 stories up!" "This is a fine time to get superstitious!" was the reply.

Aunt Hetty: "Sakes alive! I don't believe no woman could ever have been so fat."

Uncle Hiram: "What y' readin' now, Hetty?"

Aunt Hetty: "Why this paper tells about an Englishwoman that lost two thousand pounds."

ARKANSAS METHODIST



### A Letter From Edith Martin In Africa

M. M. C. C. Tunda Station,  
July 10, 1955.  
Dear Friends in the North  
Arkansas Conference,

Yesterday as I listened to one of my favorite hymns, "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked," I was inspired to share some of my recent experiences with you.

"I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" and found a very sad and lonely widow who had recently lost her husband and who is being badly treated by the husband's family who felt that the husband's death was partly due to her neglect because no African dies a normal death from disease. If the wife had cared for him, he would not have died. When we found her, she was sitting on the ground with black mud on her body and wearing only a loin cloth because the family would not let her wear more clothes. She had had little food since her husband's death. The husband's brother wanted to take everything from the widow and two sons. With the help of Christian friends, we were able to help her. We are protecting the husband's bicycle, sewing machine, phonograph, and chickens so that the boys will have some dowry for a wife. The woman is living in the mission village where she will be protected, and, as she says, where she is free to wash the black mud off of her body, wear clean clothes, and learn more about Jesus and how He can help women. She wants to work to support herself and her two sons. The more I see the hardships of the African women and girls, especially widows, the more grateful I am that I was born in a Christian home and country. This makes me realize that I have a great responsibility for the African women and girls.

"I Walked (again) Where Jesus Walked" and found people who were seeking the Light which we find in Christ. This group had met to work on the manuscript of the translation of the Old Testament into Otetela. It was a real privilege to work with this group of Christian leaders and to help them

have the Old Testament in their language. They said that it was hard work, but they also said, "This will help our people to know God and when they know Him, they will love and understand Him."

"I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" and found a young girl very much disturbed because she had been misunderstood and misquoted. Because of her fear she had run away from school. She was so frightened from fear of punishment that she did not know what to do or where to go. Some of the African and missionary women talked and prayed with her and helped her to see that she could be a strong Christian leader for the Atetela women if she continued her training. She seems to be her happy self again because love can conquer fear. She has great possibilities for leadership and we need Christian women to lead the African women and girls from darkness, fear and superstition to Light.

One morning "I Walked Where Jesus Walked" and found a school-room full of bright eyed, eager boys and girls studying to know God and the world in which they live. I told them the story of the "Lame Man at the Beautiful Gate" and showed them that Peter had no material possessions to give but that he gave the best he had. This gift proved to be the best and greatest gift that the man had ever received. Then I spoke to them about what they could give to people today. They could give friendship, love, interest, knowledge, and themselves. They were so interested that I feel sure that they will give of themselves to help others live more abundantly.

These are a few of the rewarding experiences that I have had recently. I thank you for helping me and these people to live more abundantly and to share this abundant life with others.

May God richly bless you and will you continue to pray for us?

Yours in His work,  
Edith Martin

#### NEWS IN BRIEF

Circle 5 of the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the First Methodist Church, Hope, met at the Fair Park August 15 for its annual potluck picnic with Miss Mary Anita Laseter and Mesdames Lloyd Guerin, Bill Wray, Homer Jones and H. O. Kyler, Jr., serving as hostesses.

Mrs. Claude Tillery, circle chairman, presented gifts from the circle members to Mrs. Virgil Keeley, wife of the pastor, and member of the church. Three years ago the circle presented Mrs. Keeley with a Life Membership in the Woman's Society.

The summer meeting of the Fifth Zone of the Baton Rouge District was held at the New Hope Church on August 4. Seven of the nine societies of the zone were represented and there were 43 pre-

### FINANCIAL REPORT—LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE

#### W. S. C. S.—FIRST QUARTER, 1955-56

##### RECEIPTS:

Balance	\$16,597.15
Undirected Pledge to Missions:	
W.S.C.S.	\$12,884.40
W.S.G.	1,699.54
Projects:	
W.S.C.S.	207.66
W.S.G.	121.27
McKinney Fund:	
W.S.C.S.	573.15
W.S.G.	3.00
Stahley Fund	586.50
Conf. Rural Work	393.50
Special Memberships:	
Honorary Baby—	
W.S.C.S.	40.00
W.S.G.	5.00
Honorary Youth—	
W.S.C.S.	15.00
Adult Life—	
W.S.C.S.	375.00
W.S.G.	150.00
Honorary Life—	
W.S.C.S.	100.00
In Remembrance Gifts...	55.00
Methodist Urban-Community Work	223.75
Credit on Pledge:	
W.S.C.S.	\$15,454.04
W.S.G.	1,978.81
TOTAL Credit on Pledge	\$17,432.85
Youth Fund	335.46
Children's Service Funds	4.58
TOTAL on Appropriations	\$17,772.89
Cash for Supplies:	
W.S.C.S.	856.43
W.S.G.	116.30
Cultivation Fund:	
W.S.C.S.	1,587.17
W.S.G.	217.00
Student Loan	57.85
Alcohol Education	295.55
E.T.W. Fund	268.10
Other Receipts	38.60
Total Receipts:	
W.S.C.S.	\$18,897.78
W.S.G.	2,312.11
TOTAL Receipts	\$21,209.89
OTHER RECEIPTS:	
Refund Jur. School of Missions	60.00
Conference W.S.G. Week end	29.77
Conf. School of Missions Supply Gift (Bisti Mission School)	135.78
Ark-Okla. Rural Supplies	50.00
Ark-Okla. Rural Appropriations..	150.00
Registration and Room fees	59.75
(Jur. School of Missions) Refund on Upper Room Booklets	10.65
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$21,705.84
Add Balance—Total to acct. for..	\$38,302.99
CSR and LCA reported—	\$12,588.28
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Pledge to Missions:	
W.S.C.S.	\$12,559.96

W.S.G.	1,638.73
Projects:	
W.S.C.S.	3,130.00
W.S.G.	121.27
Special Memberships:	
W.S.C.S.	400.00
W.S.G.	130.00
In Remembrance Gifts..	55.00
TOTAL Credit on Pledge:	
W.S.C.S.	\$16,144.96
W.S.G.	1,890.00
TOTAL Credit on Pledge	\$18,034.96
W.S.C.S. and W.S.G.	\$18,034.96
Youth Fund	335.46
Children's Serv. Fund	4.58
TOTAL on Appropriations..	\$18,375.00
Supplies—	
Foreign	233.13
Home	875.38
TOTAL to Division	\$19,483.51
OTHER DISBURSEMENTS:	
Administrative Expense	362.83
Jurisdiction School of Missions	355.26
Conf. Sch. of Missions:	
W.S.C.S.	293.86
W.S.G.	30.90
Cultivation Fund:	
W.S.C.S.	1,587.17
W.S.G.	217.00
Student Loan Fund	57.85
Alcohol Education	295.55
E.T.W. Fund	403.50
Meth. Board Cooperation (Camp Tanako Bldg.)	5,000.00
Rural Work	740.04
Miscellaneous	208.54
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$29,045.01
Balance Aug. 15, 1955—	\$9,257.98

##### SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT—Adult Life: Mrs. Cecil Thorp, W.S.G., Grand Ave., Hot Springs; Mrs. Sarton Douglass, First Church, Hot Springs; Mrs. McDonald Murry, First Church, Malvern.  
CAMDEN DISTRICT—Honorary Baby: Barbara Lynn Cotrell, El Dorado. Adult Life: Mrs. Frank Patterson, Junction City. Honorary Life: Mrs. Esther McKinnon, El Dorado.  
HOPE DISTRICT—Adult Life: Mrs. Rachel Edmiston, Hope W.S.G.  
LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT—Honorary Baby: Linda Joyce Bradley, Highland; Cindy Margaret Stouffer, Bauxite. Honorary Youth: Virginia Le Noir, Asbury. Adult Life: Dr. J. Kenneth Shamblin, Mrs. J. Kenneth Shamblin, Mrs. William C. Yarbrough, Pulaski Heights; Mrs. Ed Wright, Primrose; Mrs. Fred Graham, First Church, Little Rock; Ophie Young, First Church, Little Rock W.S.G.  
MONTICELLO DISTRICT—Honorary Baby: Nancy Lynn Ralph, Lake Village; Robert Alan Davis, Jr., Hamburg; Carla Sue Barnes, Camden; Terry Lynn White, Star City W.S.G. Adult Life: Mrs. Tom Biggs, Lake Village.  
PINE BLUFF DISTRICT—Honorary Baby: Stephen Curtis Price, DeWitt, Adult Life: Mrs. C. M. Raines, DeWitt; Mrs. Ruby Lee Jackson, Mrs. M. P. Grizzard, Lakeside W.S.G.  
MRS. J. L. VERHOEFF, Conf. Treas.

sent.

After the meditation by Mrs. Marvin Corley and a short business session conducted by Mrs. J. A. Jacobs, zone leader, the meeting was turned over to the district officers for a leadership training by the question and answer method.

District officers who took part in the discussion were: Mrs. C. B. McGowan, vice-president; Mrs. T. M. Ellis, promotion; Mrs. R. E. Watson, Status of Women; Mrs. W. R. Irving, Spiritual Life; Mrs. C. O. Munson, recording secretary; and Mrs. Frank Peabody, discussed Missionary Education.

Rev. Oakley Edwards, host pastor, dismissed the meeting with the benediction. Mrs. T. E. Spillman, president of the New Hope-Concord society, invited everyone to join in a picnic lunch under the magnolia tree outside the church.

John Wesley Sub-District of the Woman's Society of Christian Service met Tuesday August 15th at Bethlehem Methodist Church at 10 o'clock, Mrs. W. F. Amis, president, presided, prelude by P. H.

Taylor. Rev. Bobby Langley led in prayer and a very inspiring devotion was given by Mrs. Clarence Daniell. Mrs. Alvin Stone introduced the speaker, Mrs. J. Russell Henderson of Little Rock, who spoke on "Our Responsibilities in a Troubled World."

At noon a delicious potluck lunch was spread on the long table placed under the spreading oaks on the church lawn.

The group assembled at 1 o'clock p.m., by singing "What A Friend We Have in Jesus," Miss Polly Lassiter led the prayer. The Sparkman society presented a skit "The Ghost", a playlet of "The Ghost issuing Warning of the Cause of Death of a Society." A very interesting discussion was led by Mrs. Henderson.

Hollywood and Okolona churches were special visitors from the Arkadelphia District. Mrs. Alvin Stone, Mrs. Ethel Teague and Miss Lassiter gave some interesting thoughts. Hollywood society extended an invitation to all members to meet with them at Trinity Church on November 16th. Mrs. W. F. Amis led the closing prayer. — Reporter.

#### NORTH ARKANSAS SEMINAR DATES

Sept. 1, Jonesboro District, Tyroneza P. M. — Guild, Marked Tree.

Sept. 10, Conway District. Conway.

Dates for Seminars in other North Arkansas Conference Districts will be announced at a later date.

## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

**A** VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL was held last week on the Goshen Charge, Rev. O. L. Cole, pastor.

**R**EV. ARNOLD SIMPSON, pastor of Wiggins Memorial Church, Fayetteville, left on August 17 for a vacation in southern California.

**R**EV. AND MRS. W. C. LEWIS were given an old-time pounding at the parsonage at Roe on Friday evening, August 19. This is their fourth year at Roe.

**R**EV. AND MRS. J. T. ROGERS of St. Charles are in the Our Lady of Nazareth Home, which is the old St. Vincent's building located at 1000 High in Little Rock. Brother Rogers is a retired member of the Little Rock Conference.

**R**EV. CHARLES BAUGHMAN, pastor of the Stamps Methodist Church, was the speaker at the meeting of the Jackson Street Methodist Church of Magnolia on Monday evening, August 22.

**D**R. E. STANLEY JONES, well-known author, Christian missionary, and religious leader, is scheduled to speak in Jonesboro on September 27, according to a recent announcement. Place and the hour will be announced later.

**R**EV. WILLIAM SHERMAN of Fayetteville preached on August 21 at Zion on the Wesley and Zion Charge, Springdale, in the absence of the pastor, Rev. Sam Auslam, who is visiting relatives in West Texas.

**R**EV. D. MOUZON MANN, pastor of the McGehee Methodist Church, was the preacher in a week of evangelistic services at the Rison Methodist Church, August 14-19. Rev. Edward B. Hollenbeck is pastor.

**T**HE GRIFFIN MEMORIAL Methodist Youth Fellowship, Paragould, sponsored a supper for the Methodist Men and their families recently with about 125 present. Fletcher Dodson was guest speaker and the Woods quartet sang.

**R**EV. H. D. GINTHER, pastor of the Fairview Methodist Church of Texarkana, is conducting revival services at the Keith Memorial Methodist Church of Malvern. The services which began on Sunday evening, August 23, will continue for one week. Rev. Irl Lancaster is pastor.

**J**OHN BEARDEN, JR., was elected president of the newly organized Methodist Men of the Leachville Methodist Church at a meeting on Friday evening, August 5. Other officers are: Vice-president, Dr. T. N. Rodman; secretary and treasurer, Bud Selby, and reporter, Norman Kennett.

**T**HE MARVELL METHODIST CHURCH began its new year in June as a station with Rev. Porter Weaver as pastor. The response of the congregation has been very gratifying, according to report, with an increase in attendance, especially at the evening service. The church held a successful Youth Activities Week with the Christian and Presbyterian Churches cooperating.

**B**URFORD DAVIS was in charge of the devotional period at the meeting of the Methodist Men of the Fairview Methodist Church, Camden, on Thursday evening, August 11. W. F. Sales, president, was in charge of the business session. The next meeting will be a fish fry at the paper mill park on Thursday, September 8.

**B**ISHOP RICHARD C. RAINES of Indianapolis, Indiana, will be the guest Sunday, September 18, on the Columbia Broadcasting System's network television program, "Lamp Unto My Feet." Originating in the New York studios of WCBS-TV, 10:00-10:30 a. m., Eastern Daylight Time, the program will be carried live on most of the network's television stations using this religious-drama series.

**P**LANS are underway to start immediately on the construction of an educational building at the Methodist Church of Murfreesboro. A financial goal of \$20,000 has been set. The inside

dimensions of the building will be 80 by 35 feet. It will be built of brick and will contain seven classrooms, a recreation hall, restrooms, and a kitchen. It will be air-conditioned. Rev. Omma L. Daniel is pastor.

**R**EV. GEORGE WAYNE MARTIN, pastor of the Lakewood Methodist Church of North Little Rock, was the inspirational speaker at services ending a Youth Activities Week at the Clinton Methodist Church, August 12. The services, which were held each evening, were built around the theme, "The MYF, a Redemptive Fellowship." Rev. W. P. Connell is pastor at Clinton.

**D**R. ROY BAGLEY, district superintendent of the Fayetteville District, and his family, left on July 31 on a vacation trip going the southern route through the Smoky Mountains to Ocean City, N. J. They visited relatives en route. Dr. Bagley preached from August 7-14 in the Ocean City tabernacle. While there they encountered the hurricane Connie. They returned via the northern route, arriving home in Fayetteville on August 17.

**T**HE \$23,000 Building and Improvement program of the Beebe Methodist Church which began early this year, is nearing completion, according to announcement by the pastor, Rev. George Stewart. The installation of a 16-ton air condition unit was completed. Ground was purchased and a new parsonage built into which the pastor and his family moved recently. A \$950.00 payment was made on the building program of the Methodist Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

**D**AVID RICKEY, son of Rev. and Mrs. Henry A. Rickey of Conway, has accepted a full grant-in-aid to attend the University of Houston. He won his athletic scholarship in track, specializing in the 220 and 440 yard dashes. He will study petroleum engineering. Pat Rickey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rickey, has enrolled in Hendrix College as a senior. She plans to graduate in August 1956 and will enter Perkins School of Theology to study for the degree of Master of Religious Education.

**T**HE OFFICIAL BOARD of the McCrory Methodist Church voted at a meeting on Tuesday evening, August 16, to purchase a 50 x 159 feet lot just south of the church building for \$4,000. Plans are being made to construct an educational building on the lot in the near future. A committee will be appointed to make a serious study of the educational needs of the church and report its findings to the Official Board soon in order that plans may be completed for the construction of the building. Rev. W. M. Womack is pastor.

**R**EV. HENRY RICKEY, district superintendent of the Conway District, held a revival in Danville, July 31-August 5, for Rev. Paul Lanier, pastor. The church is planning a new educational building. Mr. Rickey also held a revival in the Plumerville Methodist Church, August 14-19. There were four additions to the church, two by vows and two by transfer. Mr. Rickey reports that Rev. Robert Johnson has done an excellent job in working out a merger of the Plumerville Church with Malletown and Springfield Churches, making the Plumerville Circuit.

**T**HE METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP of the Primrose Methodist Church, near Little Rock, has elected the following officers: President, Celia Junkin; vice-president, Anna Dixon; secretary and treasurer, Rita Ratcliffe. Committee chairmen are: publicity, Alice Dixon; Faith and Witness, Ronnie Avery; Citizenship and Outreach, Danny Fiser; Fellowship, Dickey Thompson. Adult workers are Mrs. W. F. Purtle and Mrs. M. K. Johnson. Mrs. James Russenburger is counselor and Rev. James Robert Scott is pastor.

**Y**OUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK was held at the First Methodist Church, Arkadelphia, the week of August 15-19, the theme for the week being "The Call of the Christ." Discussions by

the Seniors were built around this theme and the Intermediates made a study of "Being Christian in Our Personal Lives." Rev. J. M. Hamilton, pastor of the church, and Rev. T. T. McNeal, district superintendent of the Arkadelphia District, were the inspirational speakers. Dolphus Whitten and Mrs. Milton Teague assisted in making the week a success. Leslie Harrison, director of Christian Education, served as coordinator.

**Y**OUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK was held at the Fisher Methodist Church the first week in August. James Linam from Leachville, senior at Hendrix College, was director of recreational and devotional periods. Peggy Parks, Bobby Shewmaker and Crider Thrasher, all members of the Huntington Avenue Church in Jonesboro, led in the discussions. Anderson Weld, member of the MYF of Fisher, substituted in the Intermediate group the last two nights. Mrs. J. W. Glass and Mrs. Roy Weld led the Junior work. Rev. J. W. Glass, pastor, and Roy Weld assisted. An average of 30 were present each night.

**T**WO additional staff members began work on September 1 for the Methodist Radio and Film Commission in Nashville, according to Dr. Harry C. Spencer, executive secretary of the Commission. They are the Rev. John Clayton of Los Angeles, Cal., and Columbia, Mo., and Miss Jacqueline D. Kersch of Daytona Beach, Fla. Mr. Clayton, who has done graduate work in the field and has had several years experience in film making and television, will become supervisor of production. Miss Kersch will be assistant to Rev. Royer H. Woodburn, director of utilization and field service.

**M**ETHODIST CHURCHES to serve Christian congregations in five industrial cities in the Bengal area of India are now nearing final construction. The Rev. Halsey E. Dewey, for thirty-four years a missionary in Bengal, reports that a new church has been completed at Chanch, a fire-brick-manufacturing center, and has a seating capacity of 300 persons. A church of the same size has been dedicated at Bokaro, where there is a large thermo-power station. Completed also is a church to serve the Methodist congregation at Chittaranjan, a railway locomotive-building city. New church buildings are going up at Gomoh, where there is a 400-pupil Methodist school; at a village between Kumardhibi, where a steel-rolling mill and a fire-clay works are located; and at Maithon, site of a hydroelectric plant.

### BISHOP MARTIN ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS

Bishop Paul E. Martin announces the following appointments in the Conway District, North Arkansas Conference: Rev. Weldon Gillian, Pope County Circuit, and Rev. Edward Spiva, Salem-Mayflower. Both young men are students at Hendrix College.

### INDIA CHOIR TO TOUR U.S.A.

The Methodist Church in Southern Asia is sending an eighteen voice choir to the United States in 1956 as part of India's celebration of one hundred years of Methodism (1856-1956). Directed by Southwestern College (Winfield, Kansas) and Garrett Biblical Institute-trained Rev. Victor Sherring, the Centenary Choir will arrive in New York March 1, 1956, and travel to Minneapolis for a General Conference appearance. Dr. Donald F. Ebright, now in the United States to organize the choir tour, is scheduling dates. He may be reached at 37, Cantonment Road, Lucknow, U.P., India.

During the pre-General Conference concert tour the choir will be scheduled westward to Southwestern College and thence north to Minneapolis. A second tour is planned after General Conference.

The Centenary Choir is the leading Christian musical group in India and presents a blend of Indian and Western music, harmonized bhajans (lyrics) and instrumental numbers. "They will come not only as cultural ambassadors but singing messengers of Christ and His Church from India," says Dr. Ebright.

ARKANSAS METHODIST

I  
Saw



A Sheep Feeder

By  
Rev. R. A. Teeter

who was just a young lad tending his father's flock. His job was not as easy as you would think because of the antics of the sheep. The lambs were more interested in play than in food. They skipped and hopped about, jumping up on every elevated place they could reach, showing off like some people. Some of the ewes were timid and allowed themselves to be pushed around. Others were hard to please and rushed around from one spot to another, trying to find a more acceptable bit of food. The result was that much good feed that should have gone into making wool and mutton was trampled in the dirt. An old ram came up close to the feeder, stamped his feet, snorted and shook his big horns and thick skull belligerently. The boy stood his ground, calling the bluff, and old billy backed off into a corner. The feeder went on doing his best to get them to eat their food, rams, lambs and all.

Shepherds have a pretty hard time getting results. Sheep are not remarkable for knowing a good thing when they see it. That can be said of people, too. Jesus said to Peter: "Feed my sheep" and repeated it twice more. That must have been for emphasis, to keep Peter on the job. He would have a hard time getting food down the children and youth. The women who ran pell mell from one fad to another would be undernourished. And of course the men who stamped, and snorted and threatened, and some times carried out their threat, would have to be dealt with. That little sentence, "feed my sheep", was probably the hardest assignment Peter ever got. He lived to see much "bread of life" trampled under foot, but he never abandoned the feeding process. Not in fear of the threats of the rams or anything else.

So every one has found it who has tried to be a sheep feeder, tried to tend the Father's flock. It is a grand calling but it is difficult because of the antics of the sheep. Too many of them play, stamp and snort when they should be eating.

### PARSONAGE FAMILY GIVEN SHOWER

The members of the McRae Methodist Church were delighted to have Rev. Carl Williamson and his family returned for the second year. They were given a surprise pounding at the parsonage.

Work on the charge is moving along nicely. The pastor held a ten-day revival at McRae, beginning on July 8.

The Commissions meet with the pastor each first Wednesday evening of the month.

The Methodist Youth Fellowship is sponsored by Wendell Rawlings.

Mrs. Jack Meyers has charge of the Junior fellowship session.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service is ably led by the president, Mrs. Maggie Lewis.—Reporter

### JUDSONIA MAKES IMPROVEMENTS ON CHURCH

Judsonia Methodists, ever alert for improvement and comfort, physically as well as spiritually, have made two distinct contributions to this end by installing a Chrysler Air Temp Air Conditioner in the church, and are now in the process of re-decorating the dining room and vestibule. The latter through the efforts of the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

The regular fellowship supper held each month, is apparently unaffected by traditional "summer slump." Monday evening, August 15th, saw one of the biggest gatherings of the year, highlighted by several visitors, among them Mr. and Mrs. Flavel Chastain of Dallas, Texas and Mrs. Gladys Summerlin of Monroe, La.

Mrs. Summerlin, who is a talented musician, graciously played the piano for the song program, and Mrs. Chastain sang a beautiful solo. These are former Judsonians whom we are always glad to welcome back home.—Mrs. Ed Brock

### FAMILY FELLOWSHIP AT MOUNTAIN VIEW

The Mountain View Methodist Church experienced a rich Christian fellowship when the families of the church enjoyed an outdoor fish fry put on by the men of the church on the evening of August 24. The men prepared the fish and served to 92 people. Taking part were Clay Brewer, Lee Stigall, Kebel Hinkle, Kipp Sullivan, Andrew Tapley, Epps Mabry, Jack Jones, W. C. James, Von Rose, Savage Mabry, P. F. Neff, Buddy Lackey, Aster Dearien, Oria Massey, Ivan Williamson, and Henry Jinske.

The women of the church were so pleased with the cooking that they voted for the men to repeat the occasion in the near future.

Special guests included the men and women who had been with the church fifty or more years. They are Clarence Rosa, George Lacky, John Hess, Albert Lancaster, Dr. N. C. Maxey, Joe Storey, Mrs. Walter Brewer, Mrs. Albert Lancaster, Mrs. John Hess and Mrs. Clarence Rosa. Singing was led by our local preacher, Rev. J. Arthur Ryan. H. E. Watson asked the blessing. It was discovered in the course of the program that some 45 years ago Mr. Watson taught a one-room school in one of the mountain counties and from this school thirteen boys became preachers, among them were Dr. Cecil Culver and Rev. A. N. Storey.

Clay Brewer, chairman of the Official Board, spoke about the budget of the church. Mrs. Kipp Sullivan, president of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, discussed the work of the society.—H. W. Jinske, pastor

### MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE EMPHASIS THIS MONTH

(Continued from page 1)  
junction with a leadership school in July.

Miss Vera Zimmerman and the Rev. Robert Clemmons, both from the Methodist General Board of Education in Nashville, are assisting in conducting the one-day meetings.

The district workshops will be held in the Little Rock Conference during Christian Education Week in conjunction with the church school

### DR. SCHISLER'S SUCCESSOR NAMED

(Continued from page 1)

church. It is a matter of great satisfaction to all of us, that, although the official time of retirement is near at hand, we can confidently expect from him continued counsel and guidance, in an advisory capacity, as a great elder statesman in the church," Bishop Martin said.

Born at Ticonderoga, N. Y., July 14, 1896, Dr. Adkins was educated at Middlebury (Vermont) College, from which he holds an honorary doctor of divinity degree, and Boston University School of Theology.

A leader in Christian education work, he has served as executive secretary and president of the Troy Conference Board of Education, registrar of the Central New York Conference Board of Ministerial Training, and as president of the National Methodist Conference on Christian Education (1942-44). He has been a member of the General Board of Education since 1940, was secretary of the 1948 General Conference Committee on Education and was a member of the church's Curriculum Committee 1948-52.

Dr. Schisler in welcoming his successor to his new work, lauded his leadership of the program of Christian education in his several pastorates and in the annual conferences where he has served.

"Dr. Adkins will bring to this task a pleasing personality, a co-operative spirit, and deep religious experience," Dr. Schisler said. "I believe he has fine capacity for leadership. I most heartily welcome him as my successor and wish him every possible success."

emphasis program.

Leaders for the workshops, all members of the Methodist General Board of Education staff, Nashville, include: Dr. Walter Towner, director of the Department of General Church Work, who lead the discussion on church school administration; Dr. Robert S. Clemmons, Department of Adult Education; the Rev. Lewis E. Durham, Youth Division; and Miss LaDonna Bogardus, Children's Division.

Workshops will be held at the First Methodist Churches in Pine Bluff, Sept. 25; Little Rock, Sept. 26; Arkadelphia, Sept. 27; Texarkana, Sept. 28; Camden, Sept. 29; and Monticello, Sept. 30.

### WORK AT THE SANITORIUM

We have almost 1200 patients at the Sanatorium. They are housed in eight buildings according to the condition of improvement. I minister to all as often as I can.

The response to my ministry is encouraging. A record of conversions and reclamations is kept along with those I receive for church membership. The cooperation of the pastors receiving these members, whose names I sent them, is gratifying.

A copy of *The Upper Room* is given all of the patients throughout the year. A number have called my attention to their use and their appreciation of the prayers in them. I have a shortage of *The Upper Room* to give every new patient entering during the two months of each new issue. I could use around 100 more copies than are being sent me. This would be a fine service for some church group.

Let me express my thanks to everyone sending in offerings on the Methodist Sunshine Fund. This fund is a real benefit to many of the patients. For instance, a number of patients unable to purchase fans are loaned fans by the chaplain bought out of the Sunshine Fund. This is one of the many uses of the fund.

Most of my ministry is done through personal contacts. Out of these visits an opportunity for counsel, evangelism, encouragement and the dealing with problems and needs are afforded.

Through the eighteen services which are conducted monthly worship experiences are had. One of the services is the Sunday School Class in Hamp Williams building. The Boards of Christian Education of both conferences make possible the quarterlies for this class and Methodist patients. — Chaplain Bates Sturdy.

### Dr. Schweitzer Visiting France

Dr. Albert Schweitzer, world-famed Protestant medical-missionary, theologian, musician and author, returned to his native Alsace to spend the summer at nearby Gunsbach and other spots connected with his boyhood. The 80-year-old winner of the 1952 Nobel Peace Prize has spent most of the last 42 years directing the hospital and leper colony he founded at Lambarene, French Equatorial Africa.

### RECEPTION FOR PARSONAGE FAMILY



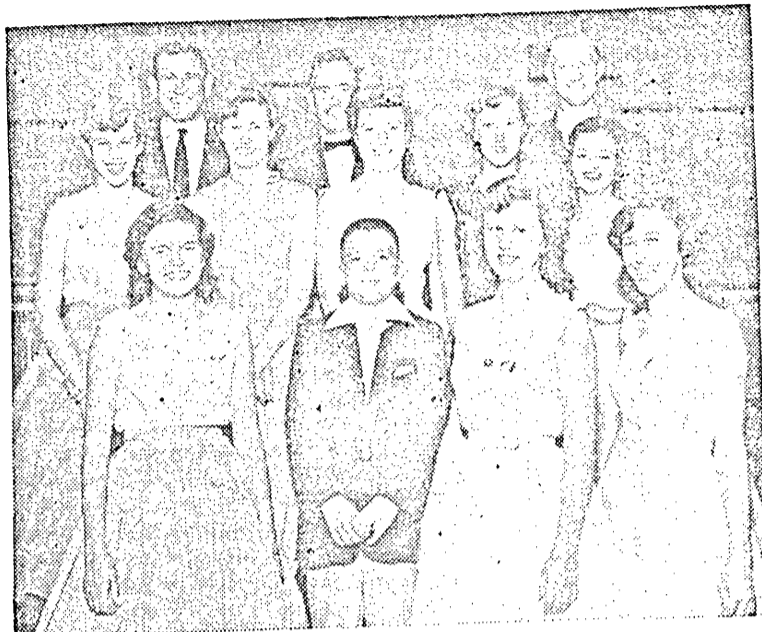
The above picture was made at the reception which was given by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of St. Luke's Church, Little Rock, for the pastor, Rev. David M.

Hankins, and Mrs. Hankins.

Mrs. Fred Longstreth, president of the society, presented the parsonage family seven lawn chairs.

# METHODIST YOUTH

## LIFE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS AT FIRST CHURCH, MAGNOLIA



The above young people of the First Methodist Church, Magnolia, have volunteered for full-time Christian service in the Methodist Church.

Pictured from left to right, front row, are Sue Kaminer, George Hozendorf, Barbara Grimes and Linda Buck. Second row, left to right, Ann Shellberg, Eugenia Ste-

wart, Sue Hudson, Carolyn Stewart and June Grey. Back row, left to right, Rev. C. Ray Hozendorf, pastor, Ben Russell, and Rev. John Hassler, director of Christian Education.

Not present when picture was made are Janet Harter, Nelda Gillespie, Louie Shiver and Joe Butcher.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH, JONESBORO

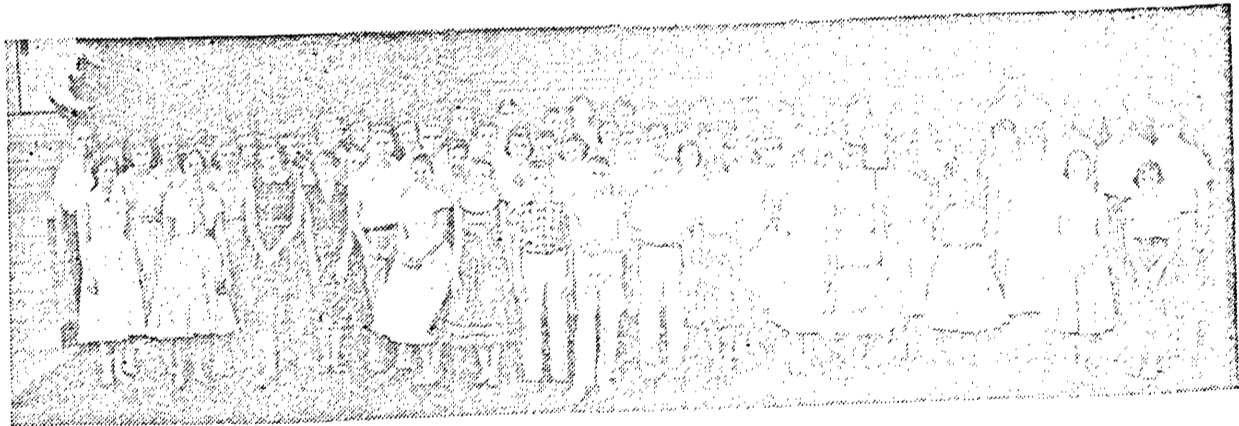
Youth Activities Week, planned and directed by the Senior young people of the First Church in Jonesboro was observed August 2-5 using the theme "Less Prone To Please The Crowd" from the theme hymn "O Young and Fearless Prophet".

Special youth committees were in charge of each phase of the evening program beginning with snack suppers, followed by group singing, discussion groups, special features, recreation and worship. Joy Robinson, Maxine Strickland and Roberta Tiewater were in charge of the suppers. Mary Jane Melton and Carol Clever were in charge of group singing and recreation. Discussion groups based on Nevin Harner's book for youth "About Myself" were led by Mona Hughes, June Disinger, Johnny Groves and Boyce Bodwon. Special features nightly included a "This Is Your Life" presentation of the life of youth member Jon Hearn, a MYF talent show, the film "A Job For Bob". Worship programs, under the direction of Nancy Hearn and Brenda Frese, Chairmen of Christian Faith featured the Rev. Frank Copplestone of Liverpool England, the visiting exchange minister with the pastor, Dr. Ethan Dodgen; a youth-led meditation given by Laura Beth Plunkett and a religious drama "Youth, Where Are You?".

On Friday evening, other Methodist churches in the vicinity joined in the rally and dedication service. Ed. Matthews, Senior student of the University of Arkansas and present President of the Arkansas Methodist Student Movement was speaker. Bay youth group furnished special music. A candlelight service followed the speaker.—Reporter

A rural church worker's basic philosophy should incorporate the belief that as gravitation is a basic factor in holding the universe together so is love a basic factor that holds the spiritual realm together.—Dr. Aaron H. Rapping.

## Helena Young People Unite in Youth Activities Week



First Methodist Church in Helena had a great experience from August 14 through the 19th in a Youth Activities Week. Uniting with the Intermediates and Seniors of First Church were the youth groups of First Presbyterian and St. John's Episcopal churches. Youth from other churches also attended.

Informal prayer periods in the Methodist sanctuary each afternoon and project periods before the evening gathering were highlights of the week. The group began work on providing food and clothing for a needy family in Helena, and collecting clothing for World

Overseas Relief. Supper, each evening was served by women of the three cooperating churches. Recreation and the several discussion periods were held separately for the two age groupings. The worship experiences for the total group were planned by a youth committee and included a guest speaker each night. The theme for the week was "Witnessing our Love," and the several topics for the devotionals were carrying out this theme through "Prayers," "Presence," "Gifts," "Service," and "Selves."

Youth from these three churches have been meeting together for the

summer months. Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Smith have been counselors for the joint group. Ministers of the three churches also have been active in helping with the program. They are Rev. Irl Bridenthal of First Methodist; Dr. W. C. Neill of First Presbyterian, and Rev. Alvin Beall of St. John's Episcopal.

Miss Mary Sue Smith of North Little Rock, and a student at Hendrix, was invited into the YAW as a resource leader, and was the inspirational speaker on the last evening. Miss Smith is past president of the North Arkansas Methodist Youth Fellowship.

ARKANSAS METHODIST

## MISSIONS YOUTH TOUR TO NASHVILLE

Monday, August 1, was the date of departure for the 24 young people and five adults who took the Youth Tour of Missions sponsored by the Forrest City, Batesville and Searcy Districts. The destination was Nashville, Tennessee.

Young people who made the trip were: Cora Ann Abington, Beebe; Howard Bailey, Brinkley; Pat Barber, McCrory; Margaret Boals, Holly Grove; Paul Bowie, Helena; Beverly Brown, Hughes; Wilma Clark, Newport; Mickey Coe, Bald Knob; Wanda Covington, Bald Knob; Carol Gay Dockins, Wideman; Patti Dyer, Helena; Lois Anne Gibbs, Brinkley; Janelle Holland, Cabot; Wanda Jackson, Searcy; Janet Jimerson, Augusta; Franklin Kendall, Harrison; Don King, Helena; Martha Milum, Harrison; Douglas Newkirk, Helena; Martha Raye Shelby, Heber Springs; Jane Shouse, Harrison; Mary Smith, Clinton; Jo Alice Stevens, Newport; and Wendell Weatherford, Kensett.

Mrs. H. H. Fulbright, Searcy; Miss Thelma Pickens, Batesville; Mrs. Vance Thompson, McCrory; and Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Womack, McCrory, were the adults who attended.

The group arrived in Nashville about 4:30 Monday afternoon, had dinner at Vanderbilt University and saw a movie downtown.

Tuesday they visited the Board of Education Building, the Board of Evangelism Building and the Upper Room Chapel where they had a communion service conducted by the Rev. Mr. Womack, Scarritt College for Christian Workers, the Radio and Film Commission, the Methodist Publishing House and printing plant, and the Parthenon and Centennial Park. After eating dinner at Peabody College, the assemblage was escorted around the campus. They were invited to use the recreation facilities at the Jewish Community Center in Nash-

ville, and they accepted the invitation Tuesday night.

On Wednesday, the group visited Bethlehem Center, Centenary Institute, and the Hermitage. After dinner at Scarritt College, the Arkansas young people went to the social rooms of the college for an Enrichment Hour address by Dr. A. L. Crabb, professor of English at Peabody College. Then back to the hotel for a good night's sleep before the long trip home Thursday.

With the trip home the tour was ended. But the memories of this tour will long remain in the minds and hearts of those who went on the Youth Tour to Nashville. — Beverly Brown, Hughes.

## YOUTH WEEK AT NORTH BATON ROUGE

Youth Week was observed recently at the North Baton Rouge Methodist Church. It began on Monday night with a waffle supper followed by a program of recreation conducted by Mrs. Edward W. Harris. On Tuesday night, the young people entertained the Capitol Sub-District. Miss Gretchen Elston, a missionary on furlough from Japan, was the guest speaker.

Group singing and recreation were under the direction of Mrs. J. C. Etheredge. Miss Betty Jean Beatie and Miss Margaret Ann McRight were in charge of refreshments.

On Wednesday night, the young people enjoyed a Stunt Night program under the direction of Miss Regina Long and Mrs. J. L. Stovall. On Thursday night, Ray Dehainaut, Director of Wesley Foundation at LSU led in a program of group games and group singing and concluded with a dedication service in the church sanctuary. The Youth Week activities were concluded with a group of about 60 going to Ponchatoula Beach for a picnic and swimming. — Mary Elizabeth McGill, Reporter.



**JULY REPORT—Continued**

CASH GIFTS	
Gleaners S. S. Class, First Methodist Ch., El Dorado	\$ 10.00
Vacation Church School, DeValls Bluff Methodist Church	12.00
W. W. Scott, Camden First Methodist Church	10.00
Mrs. W. W. Hines, Crosssett Wesleyan Service Guild, Prairie Grove	10.00
Young Adult Class, Washington Avenue	10.00
Rebecca S. S. Class, Vantrease Methodist Church	5.00
Marion Methodist Church	21.90
Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Alvarez, Greenwood Methodist Church	10.00
Jett B. Graves S. S. Class, Hope First Methodist Ch.	10.00
Frost Bible Class, Texarkana First Methodist Church	10.00
Yancey S. S. Class, Marianna Methodist Church	10.00
Brewster Bible Class, Wynne Methodist Church	10.00
Irene Hunt Class, Ft. Smith St. Pauls' Church	10.00
Progressive S. S. Class, El Dorado First Meth. Church	10.00
Over the Top Class, Cauthron Methodist Church	1.90
Dumas Methodist Church, Men's Class	30.00
Lexa-Telfore Bible Class, Fordyce Meth. Church	10.00
Mrs. R. E. Cunningham, Prairie Grove Methodist Church	10.00
Young Adult Class, Rector First Methodist Church	10.00
Class of the Open Door, Sheridan Methodist Church	5.00
B. Doyle Colvert, Little Rock Wesleyan Service Guild, Prairie Grove Methodist Church	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. Charles V. Ross, Cabot Methodist Church	10.00
Mr. G. P. Gammill, El Dorado	100.00
Mrs. Callan's S. S. Class, Dardanelle Methodist Church	5.00
Evelyn Whitecomb S. S. Class, Asbury Methodist	10.00
Gillett Methodist Church S. S.	10.00
Mary Martha S. S. Class, Smackover Methodist Church	10.00
Fellowship Class, Henderson Methodist Church	20.00
The Esther Class, Siloam Springs Methodist Church	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Newcome, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tharp and the Portland Vacation Church School	23.00
Cabot Methodist W.S.C.S.	10.00
Robert R. Brown, Jr., El Dorado	25.00
The Friendly S. S. Class, Heber Springs Meth. Church	30.00
Mr. and Mrs. Everett J. Foster, El Dorado First Meth. Ch.	10.00
Young Couples Class, Camden First Methodist Church	20.00
Hoxie Methodist Church	20.00
Bradley Wesleyan Service Guild	3.00
Wesley Berean S. S. Class, First Methodist Church, El Dorado	10.00
Hanks-Wesley S. S. Class, Helena First Methodist Ch.	10.00
The Dorcas S. S. Class, Gordon Methodist Church	10.00
Gleaners S. S. Class, El Dorado First Methodist Church	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Fooks, First Meth. Church, El Dorado	28.00
Helena First Methodist Church, Youth Seekers Class	10.00
Open Door S. S. Class, First Methodist Church, El Dorado	20.00
Various Methodist Church	10.00
Incidental Collections	341.03
Materials Collections	141.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,192.58</b>

CONNOR MOREHEAD, Supt.

**MYF MEMBERS HONORED**

A progressive dinner party honoring the MYF members who will leave soon for college or the armed forces was given August 18 by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Lewisville Methodist Church.

The young people met at the church at 7 p.m. and went to the Jack McClendon home for tomato juice. A salad course, followed at the home of the Frank Colemans. Mrs. Coleman was assisted in serving by Mrs. Dan Pilkinton and Miss Louise Baker.

The party progressed to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Casey Jones where the main course which in-

cluded turkey with all the trimmings was served on the lawn. Assisting Mrs. Jones were Mrs. Carl Renick, Mrs. Lessie Nix and Mrs. Joe Colten.

When the group returned to the church, dessert was served in Fellowship Hall to approximately 35 members and Rev. and Mrs. Barry Bailey by Mrs. Robert Triplett, Mrs. Alvis Fuller and Mrs. Jarrell Jackson. Favors were miniature Bibles. Bro. Bailey addressed the group on "It's HOW You Live That Counts."

Mrs. Fuller, Secretary of Student Work, and her assistant, Mrs. Carl Renick, planned and directed the progressive dinner party.—Reporter.

**HOPE DISTRICT COUNCIL MAKES PLANS**

The second annual Hope District MFF Council cookout and business meeting, held last July 15 at Mineral Springs, was declared a success by all present, despite a heavy drizzle that turned the "cook-out" into a "cook-in".

Only recently stirred to action by the efforts of former District Youth Director Rev. Woodrow Smith, pastor of the Mineral Springs Church, and Rural Church Worker, Miss Dorothy Kelley, the council undertook several ambitious plans during the past year.

The most recent of these is the newly founded Hope District Newsletter. The first edition which is to be published quarterly, was examined by the council and declared nicely done. Its home for the first year is to be Hope, but each Sub-District will be given an opportunity to publish it for one year.

As of yet the Newsletter has no name, but a contest is being conducted to choose one. The church or individual that submits the best title will be given a prize, as well as receiving honorable mention in the next edition of the newsletter.

One of the most vital topics discussed was the forthcoming Fall District meeting to be held October 1. An effort has been made to stress in some unusual way a different program area at each of the last several district meetings, and this one is no exception.

To promote the theme of Christian Outreach, "admission" to the meeting will consist of an article selected from a list of goods needed by each of four different mission schools located in Korea, Japan and the Philippines, followed by a dramatic skit on world peace and an inspirational talk by some outstanding missionary.

Another highpoint will be reports by the delegates from the District to the National Convocation of Youth.

Included in the tasks of the Council was preparing a calendar and list of suggested program topics for Sub-District meetings in the District. It was found last year that a similar list provided a continuity of Sub-District programs throughout the district as well as aiding the local churches in preparing the programs. This year several sheets of program aids and references were added to the list.

The most ambitious project un-

dertaken by the council was the planning of a Mid-winter Institute. The Institute, which is to revolve around the topic of next year's Lenten Reading Project, "The Life of Christ," will be an overnight affair lasting from 1:00 on December 28 till mid-afternoon of the next day, and will feature a dramatic presentation of "The Terrible Meek," and a guest speaker followed by discussion periods.

It is not to be all study and no play, however. A fine program of recreation, as well as a banquet on the night of the 28th are also planned. This Mid-winter Institute, closely following and re-emphasizing the spirit of the Christmas story, is expected to be one of the highlights of the year.

Those attending the meeting included Irene Thornton, Hope; Gwenith Williams, Mena; Louise Lovell, Dierks; Rebecca Plumley, Hope; Virginia Stemple, Wickes; Lyndon Williams, Mena; "Dot" Kelley, DeQueen; and Rev. Woodrow Smith, Mineral Springs. — Gwenith Williams, Secretary, Hope District MYF.

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**THE FUNCTION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH**

Every Church needs a thoughtful group of lay men and women whose responsibility is to ask and find the answer to three questions: What is the true religious job of this local church? How can all that is done in this church set forward the true religious task? To what extent is everything which we are doing changing the lives of the people involved?—John HHeuss in the Christian Advocate

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# The Sunday School Lesson

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LESSON FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 1955

## THE JOY OF WORKING TOGETHER

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE  
Nehemiah 4:6-9, 15, 21-23; 12:27,43

MEMORY SELECTION: And the said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the work.  
Nehemiah 2:18

This is the third lesson in five-sessions UNIT IX: "NEW BEGINNINGS". The title of the first lesson was "A New Start". This new start had to do with the re-establishment of the Jews in Jerusalem. In 538 B. C. Cyrus passed a decree freeing all Jews who wished to turn to Jerusalem and assist in rebuilding the temple. Nearly 50,000 took advantage of this opportunity. Under the leadership of Zerubbabel, who belonged to the royal house of David, they made their way to Jerusalem. They immediately rebuilt the altars and worshiped God. They then stated to rebuild the temple, but their enemies who lived around Jerusalem frightened them a way from the task. By that time two years had passed. Nothing whatever was done toward the rebuilding the temple during the next 16 years.

The title of the second lesson of the unit was "Worship in a Nation's Life". The events recorded in this lesson began in 520 B. C. some 18 years after the Jew returned to Jerusalem. Two prophets came on the scene—Haggai and Zechariah—and they inspired the people to make a new start to rebuild the temple. This they did and four years later, 516 B. C., it was completed and ready for dedication.

This brings us to our theme for today—"The Joy of Working Together". The lesson material is taken from the book of Nehemiah. It is said that the priest Ezra wrote this book as well as the one that bears his name and First and Second Chronicles.

### The Lesson Background

In the year 457 B. C., about 80 years after the first group of Jews had returned to Jerusalem, a priest by the name of Ezra started out on an expedition to Jerusalem. His purpose was to teach religion to the people of his country and re-establish worship in the temple. He was granted permission to do this by king Artaxerxes. As Cyrus did some 80 years earlier, this king passed a decree freeing all Jews who wished to return to Palestine with Ezra. We are told that 1,754 men took advantage of this opportunity.

In the year 444 B. C. some 13 years after the return of Ezra to Jerusalem, Artaxerxes gave his cupbearer Nehemiah permission to return. He went for the purpose of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. This man stood in high favor with the king. He not only furnished him a body-guard of soldiers who would assure his safe arrival in Jerusalem, but he gave him a large amount of money to help defray the expenses of rebuilding the walls.

When Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem he found his people in a very sad plight. They were very poor; barely eking out an existence. To make bad matters worse they had

intermarried with the idolatrous people around them, who had led them into this evil practice. The plight of the people alone was enough to discourage a stout-hearted man, but when we add to the depleted condition of the city we have a bad situation indeed. At all points the walls of the city were in bad repair, and in many places they were broken flat to the ground. The gates had been torn down and burned. We recall this was done by Nebuchadnezzar back in 586 B. C., which was 134 years prior to the time of our present lesson. You can well imagine the condition of these walls which had laid all these years in a state of bad repair.

### A Look At Nehemiah

Nehemiah was so outstanding in his qualities as a leader that we might well take a look at him. No person mentioned in the Bible outstripped him in the virtues that make for real leadership. May we note those virtues:

He was profoundly religious. He was neither priest nor prophet but none of them outdid him in the matter of devotion to God. He was a great worker but he undergirded all of his efforts with prayer. Over and over again, in the account of his work, we find him leading the people to prayer. Not only so, but he took no credit whatever for his achievements. He felt that all of his work was accomplished through the power of God and he gave God the glory for it.

Another outstanding virtue was his faith. He fully believed that God had called him to return to Jerusalem and lead the people in the rebuilding of these walls. Not only did he believe this himself but he led the people to believe it. He so encouraged their faith that when he got through telling them how God had sent him to lead them in doing this task and how the king himself was for it, without a dissenting voice they said, "Let us rise up and build."

Another great quality of leadership possessed by this man was courage. It will be remembered that Zerubbabel and others had been frightened by the threats of the enemies around Jerusalem. These people tried that same thing on Nehemiah but it did not work. He had the highest type of courage; that which is born of faith. He believed that God had called him to accomplish this task and he felt that he would be immortal until it was done. His enemies rose up in sufficient numbers to completely surround Jerusalem. Loyal Jews who lived in smaller communities throughout Palestine feared for the lives of those who were in Jerusalem and they sent messengers to Nehemiah begging him to cease building the walls, but all to no avail. He had certain in-

dividuals watching the movements of his enemies day and night. He placed a building tool in one hand of each worker and a sword or a spear in the other, and the work went on.

Another quality was his determination. You meet some expression of the indomitable will of Nehemiah on every page of this book. He reminds one of President Andrew Jackson; "Old Hickory" as he was lovingly called. The story is told of a man who went to visit the tomb of Jackson, and one of the General's old colored servants was the caretaker. The visitor said to the caretaker, "Do you suppose the General went to heaven when he died?" The old servant replied, "I don't know, boss, whether he did or not, but one thing I do know if he made up his mind to he did." So Nehemiah made up his mind to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and nothing could stop him. His determination was born of faith and courage.

Still another quality was that of enthusiasm. Nothing on earth could dampen the ardor of this great leader. Not only was he enthusiastic himself but he had the knack of passing it on to others. He thus created a spirit among the people that simply could not be curbed.

Nehemiah was a man of great liberality. He loved the people and he loved the cause he represented. He was a man of considerable means. He held one of the highest offices in Babylon, but he gave it up to build walls around a city which he had never seen and to serve people whom he had never met. He expended his private fortune in this undertaking. Not only so, but for many years he was governor of Palestine and he never took one penny as salary for this work.

It is said that the history of the world can be read in the biographies of the great men who have lived in various generations. There is much truth in this statement. At least that is true concerning the rebuilding of Jerusalem. This task would have never been accomplished had it not been for Nehemiah or some other person of like qualities. A proof of this statement is seen in the fact that the Jews had been in Jerusalem for 80 years and had not even begun this work. It took Nehemiah or some one like him to inspire them to do it.

### "A Mind To Work"

In explaining how the task was accomplished Nehemiah took no credit whatever to himself. He gave it all to God and the people. He goes on to tell us that the task was accomplished because the people "had a mind to work". When people have a mind to work, and they cooperate in their efforts wonderful things can be done. The place of the leader, of course, was to give them this mind; to inspire them to this effort.

### Working Together

The greatest achievements on earth are brought about through cooperation. There are some things that simply cannot be done individually. Here is a rock that is so large that no man on earth has strength enough to turn it over. It takes ten men to turn that rock. All the men in the world can file by that rock in single fashion and try to turn it over and all will fail. Ten men can then turn it over. Ten men, therefore, can accomplish a thing by working together that all the men in the world cannot accomplish working individually.

There are many great needs in the

world today. Chief among them is world-wide peace. This can never be had without international co-operation. All the nations, or at least the majority of them, will have to work together if we have world-wide peace. There can be no question about the fact that as a nation the U. S. wants peace, but we would be foolish to operate on the theory that we will have peace at any cost. We have a heritage here that we simply cannot throw away. It was bought by some of the best blood that flowed through human veins. We would not be worthy offspring of those who died for our way of life if we did not defend it. There are ruthless leaders in the world who are but little better than a bunch of gangsters and who would gladly destroy our way of life if they could.

It is true that the elements of force and fear are very poor foundations for enduring peace. Peace built upon them will not last, but there is a possibility that it might last until something better can be brought in. We can continue to express a spirit of friendliness and helpfulness toward our enemies and hope and pray that such treatment will finally lead them to a spirit of co-operation in attaining world-wide peace. There seems to be a movement in that direction just now. We do not know what will come of it, but we can at least give our enemies the advantage of the doubt, and not falsely accuse them of having a bad motive.

Then, the spirit of co-operation is needed in all of our churches. There are a Sanballat and a Tobiah in nearly every church. These people hinder the church rather than help it. They do far more harm than good. They are trouble makers and a source of constant confusion. They are against everything the church wants to do unless the suggestion of such contemplated activity comes from them. When it does, they are all for it and they are greatly disturbed if all the other members do not jump in and co-operate in carrying the matter out.

These people rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. They did it in a spirit of co-operation and they found joy in their work. The experience of working together brought them closer together. That is always the case where genuine co-operation is practiced. There is a fellowship of work just as there is a fellowship of worship. People become better friends when they are brought together in this way, and as they get closer to each other they find themselves getting closer to God.

No church ever went under a great program where close co-operation was required on the part of the membership, but that it was made better by it. Many people have noted this fact and have remarked that churches never do their best unless they are put under a strain.

There is a movement of the people back to the churches. This is requiring a great building program to take care of the needs of increased congregations. This in turn is putting the churches under a strain and as they go under this strain the members are becoming more spiritually minded. If this trend continues it will help to bring about a revival of religion. People are being called upon to sacrifice more for the churches, and as they do they love the churches better. They are working together in carrying out the program of the church and as they do, they find a joy in their labor.

ARKANSAS METHODIST